

AN

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING  
POLITICAL WEEKLY



# PHOBLACHT

## Republican News

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## POMP OR PRINCIPLE

THERE can be no starker contrast between Sinn Féin and the SDLP than that revealed by Monday's Forum meeting.

In the marbled splendour of Dublin Castle, a well-preserved imperialist relic, John Hume made his main election bid for the votes of the nationalist people — posing, as he likes to pose in Brussels and Washington (and would love to pose in Westminster), in what he believes to be a statesmanlike role, aloof from the common herd.

In the palatial surroundings, Hume made not one mention of the sufferings of the nationalist people he claims to represent, but grovelled pathetically to British and loyalist opinion, before an audience of Free

State politicians who had already made it clear that their own self-interests continue to rank a long way ahead of Irish unity or of the nationalist people of the North.

But Sinn Féin, on the other hand, fights its election campaign on the stark streets of the North, among the people who suffer all the economic and social hardships of existing imperialist rule.

And they experience with those people the direct harassment from the crown forces which is the ever-present reminder of British oppression.

Sinn Féin makes no apologies for supporting those nationalist people, nor for resisting that British oppression, but, as part of the people, offers a fearless and principled leadership.



# CONTRASTS





## OPINION

# WAFFLE IN DUBLIN

IF MONDAY'S grand opening, with full pomp and circumstance, of the 'Forum for a New Ireland' in Dublin Castle was to be the SDLP's trump card in the Westminster election campaign, it looks as though John Hume is holding a busted flush.

Immediately, in the four speeches of the establishment party leaders, the emptiness of this 'Save the SDLP' stratagem was clear for all to see. Not only were the usual platitudes boringly repeated, but stark divergences in the analysis of each of the participants were revealed.

The Free State premier, Garret FitzGerald, in his address, came down more against Irish unity than for it and settled for nice-sounding phrases:

*"The New Ireland Forum can and will be a great force for good in the conflict between life and death that is joined in Northern Ireland."*

Fianna Fail's Charles Haughey made it clear that, as far as he is concerned, the Forum is a good platform on which to proclaim his verbal republicanism in an attempt to satisfy his supporters in these days of dramatic nationalist flux.

He therefore addressed the gathering as though it were a Fianna Fail ard fheis, called for British withdrawal, and made it clear that any consideration of a new constitution for a new Ireland could only be made at 'an all-round constitutional conference' in which the unionists must participate.

Labour Party leader Dick Spring, on the other hand, although showing as little enthusiasm for the Forum as his Coalition partner, Garret FitzGerald, concentrated his observations in a twenty-six county context, attacking in particular the relationship between church and state, internal to the Free State.

Thus, with FitzGerald almost openly rejecting Irish unity, Haughey declining to consider constitutional change, and Spring determined to focus his eyes on the twenty-six counties alone, John Hume had little ground left beneath his feet when he rose to speak.

His analysis of the problem is two-fold.

Firstly, it is the nationalist people of Ireland's fault for not making the Protestant ethos feel safe in a united country. Thus an attractive package must be put together to woo them into unity, to show true nationalist contrition and to achieve reconciliation.

Secondly, he feels that Britain worries over the accommodation of the Protestant ethos and must be persuaded that it is in Britain's best strategic interests that Ireland be united in a fashion tailored, to suit Britain as well as the loyalists, by the Forum.

Hume's on-the-knees analysis blindly ignores the reality that the loyalists, far from experiencing timidity about the 'Protestant ethos' being at the tender mercies of nationalists, have blatantly and triumphantly used religion to achieve a privileged position for themselves which they hope to hang on to at all costs. And in this, the British have constantly supported them, in the cause of Britain's own imperialistic goals.

Nowhere in John Hume's speech was there any mention of the brutal oppression suffered down the years, and which is continuing today, by the nationalist people of the North from this murderous alliance of the loyalists and the British.

It is a far distance, apparently, from the cruel realities of the Bogside to the splendid fantasies of Dublin Castle.

... ELECTION '83... ELECTION '83...



● Sinn Féin's 14 candidates at the launch of the party's manifesto, on May 26th, for the Westminster election

# THE VOICE OF PRINCIPLED LEADERSHIP

CUIREANN Sinn Féin fáilte roimh an deis nua seo chun a thaispeáint go bhfuil tacaíocht dár seasamh prionsabálta in éadan Rialtas Shasana agus in éadan na nDílseoirí ag bailiú nirt. Seasann Sinn Féin gan loithscéal ar son ath-aontaithe náisiúnta agus ceart mhuintir na hÉireann cur in aghaidh rial Rialtas.

SINN FEIN welcomes the opportunity to again demonstrate the growing support for our principled stand against the British government and loyalism, and our unapologetic stand in support of national reunification and in defence of the right of Irish people to resist British occupation.

In last October's Assembly elections we promised that we would be active in raising the demand for Irish unity, would provide proper constituency representation and would be available to the people.

At grass-roots level Sinn Féin has opened up full-time advice centres in all the constituencies contested last October. We have provided the people with a tireless service in their everyday social and economic struggles, whether in agriculture or against state injustices in housing and social welfare benefits, and in making grant or planning applications.

We have also challenged RUC, UDR and British army harassment of the nationalist people and demonstrated on the streets against their shoot-to-kill policy.

We are able to do this because we are an organisation of full-time voluntary workers. We are not a party of salaried, career politicians.

We ask the people to consider the following facts:

— Sinn Féin candidates are opposed by the full resources of the British government. Why?

— Sinn Féin representatives are excluded from Britain. Why?

— Sinn Féin called upon the SDLP to enter into discussions in order to achieve maximum

## Sinn Féin election manifesto



nationalist successes in the Westminster election. SDLP arrogance dictated that no agreement was reached. Our overtures were rejected. Why?

— Sinn Féin is excluded, at the request of the SDLP, from the Dublin Forum. Why?

— Sinn Féin is excluded from appearing on RTE. Why?

— The loyalist parties sought an electoral pact to defeat Sinn Féin. Why?

Sinn Féin is seen as principled and earnestly crusading on behalf of Irish unity and for a British withdrawal.

The SDLP — who are responsible for the hated 'London' prefix officially remaining before the proud name of Derry — are considered harmless and acceptable. And despite all the attempts to block our progress, Sinn Féin has succeeded in raising the national demand.

We see no point in attending Westminster. The London government asserts, by force of British arms, that the sovereignty of Ireland lies within the Westminster parliament. Sinn Féin asserts that the sovereignty of Ireland rests with the Irish people.

Sinn Féin rejects the loyalist veto and rejects British rule.

We see the six-county state as irreformable and believe that full civil rights, an end to discrimination, unemployment, social deprivation and sectarianism can only be achieved when we achieve our national rights — that is, independence and unity.

We are opposed to the Assembly and believe it has dangerous potential as a vehicle for a return to Stormont rule.

We will campaign vigorously for a united Ireland, a democratic socialist republic, free from foreign occupation and sectarian rule.

Tiocfaidh arís.

— For fearless leadership, a principled Irish stand and grass-roots constituency service, VOTE SINN FEIN!



War News... War News... War News... War News... War News

# Belfast fire-bomb blitz

IN A SUCCESSFUL commercial bombing blitz in the Great Victoria Street area of Belfast on Sunday night, the IRA's Belfast Brigade planted five fire-bombs which completely destroyed three shops and damaged several others.

A warning was phoned to newspaper offices and there were no injuries.

## RUC ATTACKED

In County Tyrone on Thursday, May 26th, just one hour after an RUC Reservist was shot dead at a checkpoint in Cookstown, IRA Volunteers in Dungannon fired shots into an RUC sanga which marks the permanent checkpoint in the middle of the town. There were no hits claimed in this last attack.

On Friday morning, an active service unit of the North Armagh Brigade's 1st Battalion ambushed a member of the RUC Reserve as he drove to work in Waringstown, County Down. A bomb, planted by the side of the road, was detonated, injuring the RUC man in the explosion.

The same man had been ambushed previously by the IRA as recently as last January when he was fired on whilst driving along the Tandragee Road.

## DRAMATIC DERRY ATTACK

An IRA active service unit in Derry dramatically evaded capture on Sunday night when they were blocked by a British army patrol in the Drumahoe area of the city.

The IRA Volunteers, dressed as RUC men, were returning from an aborted operation in a commandeered car when halted by the



Brits.

The Volunteers jumped out of their vehicle and one threw a hand grenade while three others opened fire with automatic weapons, putting the radio in the British Military Police car out of action and damaging the vehicle.

The unit then drove into Gobbinscale where they abandoned their car, which was burnt by local youths as the IRA Volunteers commandeered another vehicle and successfully completed their escape.

## SHOT FIRED AT RUC

On Wednesday afternoon, in



● (Above, left and right) Two of the shops which were destroyed in the IRA's Belfast bomb-blitz on Sunday, May 28th

Belfast, a house was taken over in area of the city by IRA Volunteers RUC landrover as it passed by, Springfield Avenue in the Colin and a single shot was fired at an No hits were claimed.

# MIRROR LIES REBOUND

BY JANE PLUNKETT

A WEST BELFAST man who received hospital treatment after the IRA's car-bomb attack which last week wrecked Andersonstown RUC Barracks has accused the newspapers of unscrupulously exploiting his young mentally handicapped son for the purposes of the British black propaganda campaign.

Early last Tuesday afternoon, May 24th, the bus on which 25-year-old Thomas Guiney and his three-year-old son, John, were travelling was stopped by British soldiers on the Glen Road, only yards from the barracks.

Thomas's account of what happened next confirms the evidence of other eye-witnesses that the RUC and British army, who later claimed they had five minutes' warning of the bomb, had delayed the evacuation of local people from the area, presumably in the hope that there would be injuries.

"The Brits and the RUC were everywhere. A soldier stopped us and told the bus-driver there was a bomb scare. Then he said it was OK to go on up to the side-street just before the barracks. As we turned the corner, the blast happened."

Following the explosion, Thomas Guiney was detained in hospital overnight, suffering from shock. His young son was taken home after doctors pronounced him unharmed.

## REPORTERS

The following day, at around noon, while Thomas was still in

hospital, the family home in Kennard Avenue, Andersonstown, was visited by five photographers and reporters. Thomas's wife, Rose, aged 21, flustered after a hectic morning looking after her handicapped son and 11-month-old baby girl, Clara, in the course of which she had received visits from both the RUC and the Housing Executive, did not think to ask the journalists for identification.

"I told them that John had not been hurt in the blast. They asked if they could take a couple of photographs of him but did not ask if they could publish them."

The next day, Thursday, May 26th, the Guineys were horrified, and furious, to see a large photograph of their son displayed prominently in the British tabloid, the Daily Mirror, above a caption: "Asking for his daddy". Beside the photo was the bold headline: "Backlash of the bombed families".

And in the ultra-loyalist Newsletter, John's picture appeared next to that of a smiling RUC Chief Inspector Ben Traynor, while the accompanying report ly-



● Thomas Guiney with his son, John: 'I resent the gutter press using our son to further their black propaganda... I'll be voting for Sinn Féin'

Rose Guiney had told the journalists, that the child had been detained overnight in hospital.

## ANGERED

So angered was Guiney that he asked the Republican Press Centre in Belfast to issue a statement he

had written, detailing his complaints against the newspapers. In it he said:

"Firstly, my son cannot, as yet, talk. He therefore could not 'ask for his daddy'."

"Secondly, the Daily Mirror photographers and journalists

hadn't even the decency to ask either myself or my wife for permission to print the photo of our son."

"Thirdly, I and my wife resent the Daily Mirror, an English pur-

their black propaganda aims.

"Finally, as far as I am concerned, no bomb would have been placed at that spot if the barracks hadn't been sited in this area."

"I wish to make it known that I, for one, will be voting Sinn Féin in this election."



...ELECTION '83... ELECTION '83...ELECTION '83... ELECTION '83...

# SINN FEIN CAMPAIGN IN FULL SWING

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

**ONE WEEK AWAY** from polling day, the Sinn Fein election machine is now in top gear. The intensification of the campaign was signalled by the launching of the Sinn Fein manifesto by the 14 candidates at a press conference on Thursday, May 26th, in Belfast.

The short manifesto emphasises Sinn Fein's principled stand against British rule in Ireland, and pledges Sinn Fein's determination to lead the people in their struggle against foreign oppression and economic and social deprivation. Journalists attending the news conference were predictably less interested in the political work done by Sinn Fein's full-time advice centres than by Sinn Fein's relationship to the armed struggle.

But, more importantly, the presence of Sinn Fein in areas considered to be indifferent or hostile, provided a welcome morale-booster for Sinn Fein supporters and instilled confidence in nationalists exposed to a daily diet of attacks on Sinn Fein by politicians and media alike.

## CHURCH

In what seemed like a concerted onslaught, the priests of several parishes in Mid-Ulster launched attacks from the pulpit against the Sinn Fein candidate on Sunday, May 29th.

While Sinn Fein election workers were preparing to address the people coming out of Mass, a priest in Cookstown described at length his visit to the family of the RUC man shot dead on the previous Thursday, and told his flock to reject those candidates who 'supported murder' and were attempting to 'import Marxist-Leninist ideas' into Cookstown.

In another parish, the priest told his flock that those who were thinking of voting for organisations 'supporting violence' should refrain from taking part in the prayers, and even get out of the chapel. He further warned the congregation against giving any money to those people waiting outside to address them, as it would 'contribute to violence'.

## MEDIA

Television interviews of Sinn Fein candidates have also started: Danny Morrison on UTV, Gerry Adams on BBC1, as well as occasional interviews.

A decision had been taken by RTE staff on Monday, May 23rd, to black all interviews and recordings of candidates in the 14 constituencies contested by Sinn Fein, in protest against Section 31, and "in the interests of fair reporting."

However, at another meeting on Friday, May 27th, at which the Workers' Party clique in RTE, led by *Today Tonight* editor Joe Mulholland, were present *en bloc*, the decision was rescinded.

Indeed, on Tuesday, May 31st, RTE's *Today Tonight* programme presented a report on Mid-Ulster, and once again Sinn Fein, in contrast to all the other parties, was seen but not heard.

Another way to silence Sinn Fein is to prevent its candidates from explaining their policies, as happened on Friday, May 27th, to West Belfast candidate Gerry Adams on BBC1. The two interviewers, David Dunseith and Brian Walker, concentrated their questions exclusively on the IRA. But for nationalist viewers, Walker's over-aggressive attitude and Adams' able performance only succeeded in



● Mid-Ulster's elected representative, Danny Morrison, out canvassing

adding the BBC to the already long list of institutions ranged against Sinn Fein in their campaign.

However, as Mid-Ulster candidate Danny Morrison pointed out, Sinn Fein voters include not only nationalists who support the IRA, but also people who have been won over by Sinn Fein's dedicated constituency work. West Belfast candidate Gerry Adams expressed the confident hope that the 64,000-strong vote obtained by Sinn Fein last October would be increased dramatically by half — bringing it close to the 100,000 mark. Foyle candidate Martin McGuinness rejected the SDLP's promise to "put the North at the centre of the stage in Westminster."

"The only thing that bring the Irish question to the centre of the stage will be Sinn Fein victories throughout the six counties, or a dramatic increase in Sinn Fein's vote."

## CANVASS

About half a million copies of the Sinn Fein manifesto will be pushed through the letter-boxes of voters across the 14 contested constituencies in the coming days. Meanwhile, after an initial run-up, involving loud-hailing, poster and motorcades, the campaign is in full swing, with door-to-door canvassing taking place on a daily basis.

The reception given to Sinn Fein canvassers, which was described as 'extremely encouraging' by Sean Keenan, responsible for canvassing in West Belfast, expectedly follows the same pattern as that of poverty and unemployment in urban areas: in districts with bad housing and high unemployment figures, where British army and RUC harassment are everyday occurrences, the level of support for the Sinn Fein candidate is high — less so in better-off areas. However, this does not apply



● Election posters go up for East Derry's John Davy (right)



● Upper Bann's Brendan Curran



● North Antrim's Pearse McMahon



● South Antrim's Sean Laverty



● Youthful energy in Foyle

so much to constituencies which are traditionally republican, such as Fermanagh/South Tyrone, or the southern half of Mid-Ulster.

## SPREADING THE WORD

On Sunday, May 29th, Sinn Fein candidates and election workers addressed the voters at after-Mass meetings throughout the North including areas where until now the republican voice was rarely, if ever, heard: Lisburn, Banbridge, Cookstown, Antrim and Aldergrove,

among others.

A Sinn Fein election worker for Lagan Valley described the amazement of some people at the sight of Sinn Fein electioneering in the middle of Lisburn:

"The audacity of it," a well-dressed woman cried indignantly, while others came to congratulate them and ask for leaflets.

## POLITICIANS

Sinn Fein's election campaign received help from an unexpected

quarter on Thursday, May 26th, when British premier Margaret Thatcher declared that "it would be a cause for concern" if Sinn Fein won seats in the general election.

The Sinn Fein candidate for Fermanagh/South Tyrone, Owen Carron, asking the nationalist people to remember the 'concern' Thatcher caused them when she murdered 10 young republicans in the H-Blocks, added:

"The nationalist population could have no greater incentive for voting Sinn Fein."

Also on Thursday, a further spur to undecided voters came with Gerry Fitt's election promise that he would leave West Belfast if he lost his seat.

Allies in their opposition to Sinn Fein, as they were on the benches of Stormont, Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party and the Alliance Party clearly stated their electoral aims:

"Number one," Paisley said on Tuesday, May 24th, "is taking on the Sinn Fein / IRA republican candidates and smashing them at the polls"; while on Thursday, May 26th, Oliver Napier asked the electors of those constituencies where Alliance is not standing, to "vote for the candidate most likely to beat the apologists for murder."

## SDLP

In a desperate attempt to fight off the Sinn Fein challenge, the SDLP launched a bitter attack on Sinn Fein on Thursday, May 19th, Alistair McDonnell, SDLP candidate for South Belfast, accused Sinn Fein of "having taken over tenants' associations at gunpoint" — an allegation which backfired on him when several tenants' groups and residents' associations issued angry statements taking McDonnell to task.

Joe Hendron called Sinn Fein 'fascists' and blamed them for all of West Belfast's ills, from bad housing to the large prison population. An invitation by Gerry Adams to Joe Hendron to debate those points in public met with the cynical reply that Hendron would certainly take part in a debate with his Sinn Fein opponent... on RTE radio.

## HOT AIR

By Monday, May 23rd, however, the emphasis had changed slightly. The new SDLP line of attack, as expounded by Brian Feeney — their candidate for North Belfast — was that "IRA and British army violence feed off each other." This belated mention of the British army was due no doubt to the angry reactions picked up on the doorsteps by SDLP canvassers at the weekend.

At the launching of the SDLP manifesto, on Wednesday, May 25th, John Hume and Seamus Mallon launched into further outbursts, accusing the IRA of having "filled the graves, filled the jails and lengthened the dole queues."

The SDLP's eight-page manifesto, a dull and woolly document which pompously speaks of the 'dramatic effect' the 'New Ireland Forum' will have, was described by Mid-Ulster candidate Danny Morrison as "a hot-air balloon meant to lift them up to new electoral heights."

"The fact remains," Morrison added, "that the SDLP as national representatives, are a failure, and that the New Ireland Forum is nothing less than an attempt to cover their nakedness."



...ELECTION '83... ELECTION '83...ELECTION '83... ELECTION '83...

# NON-STOP HARASSMENT

**THE EFFORTS** of the British army, RUC and UDR to disrupt the enthusiastic election campaign being mounted by hundreds of Sinn Féin election workers in the North have continued unabated this week. Workers in isolated rural areas have been particularly singled out for harassment and intimidation.

The most serious incidents of the week took place in Derry, culminating in the arrest, on Monday, May 30th, of Foyle candidate Martin McGuinness, his director of elections, Mitchel McLaughlin, and election worker Seamus Keenan. The three were followed for two miles by an RUC landrover, which stopped them at Pennyburn Pass. After taking their names, an RUC man demanded that the Tricolour mounted on the election car be removed.

After heated exchanges, a further two jeep-loads of RUC men arrived and a sergeant announced that they had orders to remove the Tricolour forcibly. When Martin McGuinness and his companions objected, they were arrested, and thrown bodily into the landrover, while RUC men ripped up the Tricolour. The three were then taken to Strand Road RUC Barracks, where Seamus Keenan was further assaulted.

After an hour the three were released, along with their torn Tricolour, and received enthusiastic cheers from a crowd of around 40 people, bearing Sinn Féin election posters and Tricolours, which had gathered outside the barracks.

The previous Friday morning, May 27th, RUC landrovers stopped outside the Cable Street election headquarters, searched a Sinn Féin poster car and questioned election workers. Mitchel McLaughlin was punched by an RUC inspector.

## ASSAULTED

In Portadown, in the Upper Bann constituency, one of Sinn Féin candidate Brendan Curran's election workers was assaulted by a UDR soldier on Wednesday night, May 25th. Colm Boyle, aged 19, was stopped and questioned while out poster with three friends. When he gave his address as Huron Park, a street in Portadown named after the late hunger-striker Martin Huron, he was hit across the face by an enraged UDR man.

On Thursday evening, Jim McAllister, Sinn Féin candidate for Newry/Armagh, was held for 90 minutes at Keady by Royal Marine Commandos, who tore seat-covers off his car, threw election material to the ground and threatened to 'get' one of the election workers with him, Anthony Loughran, before their tour of duty was over.

A short time later McAllister was again detained for a further 30 minutes by Marines intent on disrupting the night's electioneering. At around 9.30 the next morning, the RUC and British army raided the Lurgan homes of Sinn Féin candidate Brendan Curran, his brother, Seamus, and two election work-

ers, Sean Coleman and Noel Quinn, spending several hours examining books and election material.

That afternoon, while out canvassing on the Teghnevan estate, Curran, Coleman and several other election workers encountered a large presence of British soldiers, RUC and UDR men. They were stopped and questioned by the soldiers, one of whom seized a camera being used to photograph the canvassing and exposed the film before returning it.

## PAISLEY

Also on Friday afternoon, DUP leader Ian Paisley, out canvassing with his party's Mid-Ulster candidate, William McCrea, tore down Sinn Féin posters in Stewartstown to the glee of his supporters. The DUP have been extremely busy in these activities throughout the constituency, helped by members of the UDR and RUC.

And in Sean McKnight's South Belfast constituency, that same Friday evening, UDR men were observed standing on the tops of jeeps and tearing down Sinn Féin posters in the Finaghy Road North/Orchardville area.

In Enniskillen, later on Friday evening, four of Owen Carron's election workers, putting up posters in Henry Street, were harassed by a group of loyalists who, while the RUC looked on, attempted to tear down Sinn Féin posters.

And at Reilly's Cross, two miles from Enniskillen, four Sinn Féin workers out poster were swooped on by RUC men who, after questioning the youths, kept up their intimidatory presence for 20 minutes.

On Saturday, four of Jim McAllister's election workers out poster were stopped three times as they entered the village of Besbrook, once by the RUC and twice by Royal Marine Commandos. In all, the four were detained for over two hours, each time being questioned and spreadeagled against the car, while the posters were strewn over the road. Undeterred they eventually put up their posters, but were stopped once again by the RUC as they left Besbrook.

That evening, in Killyclogher, a UDR jeep drove at one of Danny Morrison's election workers who was up a ladder erecting posters.



Despite the pleas of Martin McGuinness and Sinn Féin election workers, who were being harassed in Derry's Cable Street on May 27th, the RUC refused to move their vehicles to allow this ambulance, bound for Altnagelvin Hospital, to pass; the RUC's petty vindictiveness is only matched by their inhumanity

At Besbrook on Sunday morning, Sinn Féin workers holding an after-Mass meeting outside St Peter's Chapel were surrounded by two car-loads of RUC personnel, persistently asking their names and addresses. At no stage did the RUC interfere with an SDLP meeting in progress 10 yards up the road. Finally, after 20 minutes, throughout which Sinn Féin worker Sarah Murphy persisted in her speech, the RUC abandoned their petty harassment.

In Randalstown, South Antrim, two of Sean Lavery's election workers were held for 1½ hours by the UDR on Sunday morning.

Monday's Bank Holiday saw no respite in the campaign of harassment. At lunchtime, members of a British army foot patrol entered the Sinn Féin election office in Divis Flats, in West Belfast, and demanded the names and addresses of election workers, tearing down posters as they left.

Around the same time, three jeep-loads of British soldiers descended on the South Derry village of Bellaghy where they spent the afternoon throwing bricks in order to knock down Sinn Féin election posters fixed to telegraph poles.

The Brits, who were later joined by five further jeep-loads, tore down scores of Sinn Féin posters, while leaving SDLP posters in the village intact.

## SEARCHED

On Monday afternoon, in loyalist Ballymena, five RUC members questioned and searched three North Antrim election workers waiting in a parked car for Sinn Féin candidate Pearse McMahon, who was visiting the offices of the *Ballymena Observer*. When McMahon returned, the RUC men questioned him and examined election material in his briefcase.

The persistent harassment of Sinn Féin election workers in Owen Carron's Fermanagh/South Tyrone constituency was continued that evening when a car containing a number of Lisnakea election workers was stopped at a British army checkpoint between Newtownbutler and Clones. The British soldiers insisted that the RUC arrest the workers and they were detained for an hour.

In West Belfast, that same evening, five of Gerry Adams' election workers out poster were followed by an RUC landrover from Unity Flats to the Docks area and back. When they returned to

the flats at around 10.30pm they were stopped by the RUC men and questioned.

## POSTERING

In South Belfast, two of Sean McKnight's election workers poster in Ormeau Avenue were stopped by an RUC mobile patrol, one of the members of which told them: "We were told to keep tabs on you Sinn Féin workers."

The youths continued poster. On Tuesday afternoon, several election workers for Sinn Féin's South Antrim candidate, Sean Lavery, poster in Antrim town, were stopped for 1½ hours by UDR soldiers.

In Lurgan, two of Brendan Curran's election workers were detained by the UDR for over 90 minutes.

Also on Tuesday afternoon, a large force of RUC raided Sinn Féin's South Belfast election headquarters in Bond Street in the Markets area.

On Wednesday morning, Brian Clarke of Camlough, who was leafletting the local unemployment office on behalf of Newry/Armagh candidate Jim McAllister, was assaulted by RUC men, arrested and held for an hour in the local barracks.

# Hopes high in Carron camp

BY JACK MADDEN

A VISITOR to the sprawling constituency of Fermanagh/South Tyrone might be forgiven for thinking that Owen Carron MP is the sole candidate in the forthcoming Westminster election. The Carron posters which cover the entire constituency bear witness to the enthusiasm and thoroughness of Carron's election team. Even the British checkpoint at Kilturk, on the Newtownbutler to Clones road, was posted last weekend and at least one poster was clearly visible inside the sanger itself.

Despite the unanimity of media commentators in predicting that Carron will lose his seat to Ken Maginnis of the Official Unionist Party, the seasoned election workers have grown increasingly optimistic that this

nationalist seat can be held. This optimism is based on overwhelmingly positive responses in canvassing and the realisation that the interventionist candidate, Rosemary Flanagan of the SDLP, is incapable of winning a sizeable section of the nationalist vote. In any event, it will be close, very close.

The campaigns of Carron and Flanagan contrast sharply.

The former is enthusiastic, featuring saturation poster, cavalcades and mass-canvassing; the latter is almost apologetic. One observer described the SDLP's efforts as "a weak campaign, almost invisible" and this weakness is demonstrated in their candidate's inability to find election workers. This led to offers of £150 for volunteers who would put up posters, judging by their scarcity it would appear that there were few takers!

The increase in Carron's support was reflected in last Sunday's church-gate collection which doubled the amount taken in a similar collection during the Assembly elections. Rosemary Flanagan

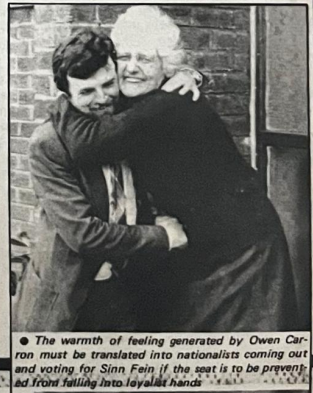
had little success, however, in Enniskillen when she tried to canvass Mass-goers. The congregation of about 800 pointedly ignored her, showing their disapproval of her candidature.

## DIFFICULT

Notwithstanding all this, the task facing Carron is extremely difficult.

Unionist unity in this constituency has ensured massive support for Ken Maginnis. Bearing this in mind and recognising that Flanagan's support must not exceed 3,000 votes, the voters are being asked to recognise that a vote for any candidate other than Carron is, in fact, a vote for UDR major Ken Maginnis. Given that voters will recognise this and also that the SDLP cannot rely on the support of Currie voters in South Tyrone, a Carron victory is possible.

One veteran of elections in the constituency informed me that he had never been wrong in predicting the eventual winner and that he did not expect to be wrong this time in forecasting that Owen Carron would retain this nationalist seat. I bow to experience.



The warmth of feeling generated by Owen Carron must be translated into nationalists coming out and voting for Sinn Féin if the seat is to be prevented from falling into loyalist hands





● Iarrthóirí Shinn Féin, Jim McAllister agus Brendan Curran agus a ngníomhairí toghchánaíochta ar chúil Joe McElhew agus George Forker

# Feachtas bríomhar

LE TOMÁS Ó SÉ

TÁ AN feachtas toghchánaíochta faoi lán tseol ar fud na sé chontae. Tá oibríthe Shinn Féin ar a míle dícheall ag iarraidh vótaí d'íarrthóirí Shinn Féin. De réir gach tuaraisc tá Sinn Féin ag déanamh dul chun cinn mór agus beidh méidiú ar líon na vótaí a fuair Sinn Féin sa toghchán don Chomhthionól.

An rud is mó atá le feiscint ná díogras agus fonn oibre mhuinintir Shinn Féin. Tá postaeirí Shinn Féin crochtha suas i ngach áit. Tá i bhfad níos mó oibríthe acu ná mar atá ag páirtí ar bith eile.

Thug mé féin dhá chuairt ar thoghcheantar An Dún/Iúr Chinn Trá chun labhairt ar chruinnithe i ndiaidh aifreinn. Gach uair a thugaim cuairt ar na sé chontae tagaim ar thuiscint níos doimhne ar dhroch staid na tíre.

Duine ar bith a fhanann sa bhaile agus a bhíonn ag brath ar sheirbhís nuachta RTE níl dabht ar bith ach nach féidir leo teacht ar tuiscint do chúrsaí na sé chontae. Don chuid is mó níl i gceist acu ach bolscaireacht do thuairimí Rialtas Bhaile Átha Cliath.

## TEILIFÍS

Furmhór mór na polaiteoirí atá ag seasamh don SDLP níl iontu ach polaiteoirí teilifíse agus a bheag nó a mhór ní dhéanann siad mórán oibre ar son an phobail. Mar sin féin cloistear iad ag labhairt ar an teilifís ar nós daoine a thuig cúrsaí. Ach le himeacht ama feictear nach bhfuil i gceist acu reiteach oidir d'fháil. 'Sé atá uathu reiteach de shaghas éigin d'fháil leis na dílseoirí.

Ach tá sé do-dhéanta teacht ar reiteach leis na dílseoirí i gcomhthéacs na sé chontae. Ní féidir iad a ghnóthú a fhad is atá cúrsaí mar atá. Nach é sin an fáth go bhfuil teipthe ar stáit na sé chontae. Bhíos ag caint le go leor leor daoine agus thuigseas uathu go bhfuil dearcadh nua ag an bpobal ar Shinn Féin. Feictear Shinn Féin mar pháirtí atá reidh seasamh leis an bpobal. Séasann Sinn Féin le mian na ndaoine a thoil-eann a bheith saor. Chomh maith le sin seasann Sinn Féin leis an bpobal ina bhfadhbanna laethúla leis an seirbhís atá curtha ar fáil sna hoifigí eolais atá ar fud na sé chontae acu.

Tá eolas ar Seamas Malloy iarr-



● Oibríthe Shinn Féin ag iarraidh vótaí

thóir an SDLP in Ard Mhaca/Iúr Chinn Trá ar an teilifís amháin. Níl aon oifig ag an SDLP sa toghcheantar. Níl seirbhís eolais acu don bpobal. Fíú amháin níl a uimhir ghutháin sa leabhar teil-eafóin.

Má tá níos mó oibríthe ag an SDLP an babhta seo léiríonn sé go bhfuil eagla ar chuid den mheán aicme náisiúnach go bhfuil Sinn Féin ag déanamh dul chun cinn mór. Agus tá an ceart acu. Tá Sinn Féin ag dul ó neart go neart.

Cheana féin d'admhaigh Thatcher go mbeadh buairt uirthi dá n-éireadh le Sinn Féin suíocháin a ghnóthú i Westminster. Ní hamháin sin ach tá gach dream ag aontú chun Sinn Féin a chineadh agus a bhuailleadh más féidir leo.

## BAGAIRTÍ

Ar ndóigh tá na péas, an UDR agus Arm na Breataine chun tosáil sa iarracht seo. Ní gá a rá ar ndóigh gur ar Shinn Féin amháin

atá siad ag cur isteach. Is cuma leo na páirtithe eile mar tuigeanann siad go maith nach b'asol ar bith dóibh na páirtithe sin.

Stoptar agus gabhtar oibríthe Shinn Féin. Bagairtear bás ar oibríthe Shinn Féin. Ní haon bhagairt gan bhrí é sin. Maraíodh Peter Corrigan tar éis toghcháin an Chomhthionóil anuraidh agus mharaigh fórsaí na Breataine seiseir i gContae Ard Mhaca ó shin.

Leanann oibríthe Shinn Féin orthu ag obair agus ag tabhairt níos ghiorra chughainn an lá go mbeidh Poblacht dár gcuid féin againn.

Aon duine go bhfuil oiread is píoc den náisiúnachas nó grá tíre ann nó intú beidh siad ag súil le bua mór do Shinn Féin. Is cinnte go dtaispeánfaidh sin don domhan mór go bhfuil mian ag pobal na hÉireann a bheith saor.

Beidh ar pháirtithe Shasain agus na sé chontae fíchead athmhachamh a dhéanamh. Ansin ní bheidh siad in ann dul i bhfolach taobh thiar den SDLP.

# STRABANE

## A casualty of

BY JANE PLUNKETT

OF all the depressed nationalist areas of the six counties, Strabane is perhaps the most neglected. The figures alone are shocking. British statistics admit that unemployment in Strabane and the surrounding countryside now totals 38.9%, the worst in the North. More than half of the male workforce are out of work. In the town itself, residents of the small nationalist housing estates can count off the numbers employed on the fingers of one hand.

Years of neglect by successive Stormont and British governments have produced a chronic housing shortage, widespread poverty and deprivation. Youth unemployment is at record levels, disguised by cosmetic youth training schemes which reduce the official total by half to 190. With few community facilities in the town, young people have nowhere to go but the streets where they are the constant target of RUC and British army harassment.

THE long-term neglect of Strabane is reflected in the cases which are brought to the advice clinic which Sinn Féin elected representative Martin McGuinness holds in the community centre on Tuesday afternoons. The clinic, he explains, was set up in response to local demand.

"For a long time, Sinn Féin in the area has been involved in social issues affecting people's day-to-day problems through its advice centres in Derry. But in the last 12 months, pressure of work has forced us to move into bigger premises in Creggan and



● In the whole of Strabane, there are only three time. In the nationalist Head of the Town area, existing but for the initiative of a small group of people. Three years ago the Fountain Hill Community use. By collecting money and donations of toys group, open every weekday morning, which is now

Shantallow, and to open new centres in the Gobnascale area of Derry and in Strabane.

The advice centre opened last February and since then the team of Sinn Féin workers have received a steady flow of complaints from people who had despairing help from either government bodies or establishment nationalist politicians. SDLP does not have an advice centre in the town, and has a reputation locally for listening on the streets only in the weeks before an election.

McGuinness estimates that 90% of the problems he deals with concern the Housing Executive.

"In my opinion, Strabane is probably percentage-wise, much worse off, in terms of the Housing Executive's ability to deal with the problems, than any other area west of the Bann.

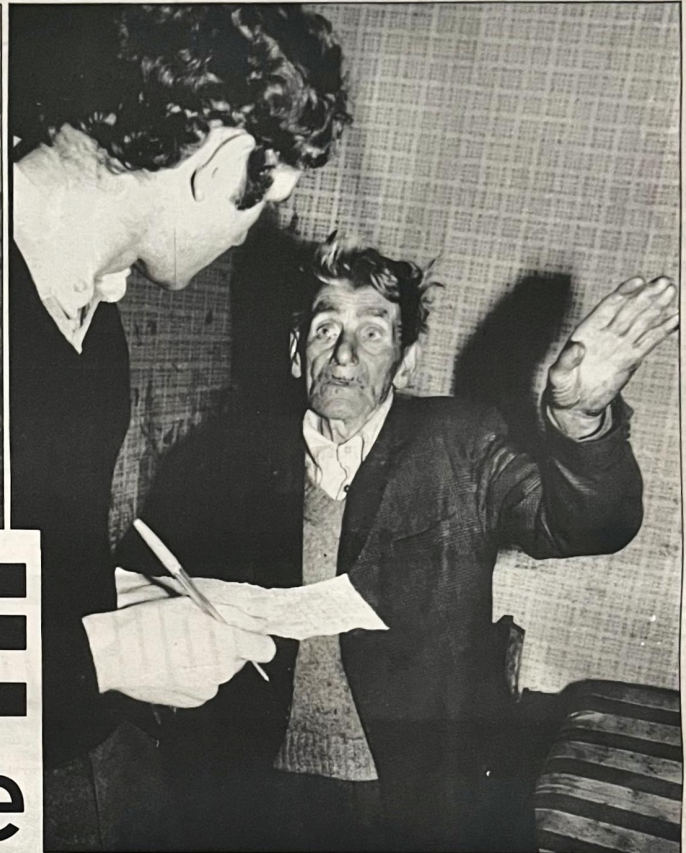
"There isn't any extensive building of new homes in the Strabane area whatsoever. Especially in the Head of the Town area. Strabane, the whole housing stock has fa-





# STRABANE

## of British rule



Seventy-nine-year-old Jimmy Harkin explains his case for urgent rehousing to an attentive Martin McGuinness.



ly three government-funded playgroups, none of them open full-time, which contains some 600 families, facilities would be non-existent for local mothers.

Community Centre was threatened with closure because of underfunding of toys and furniture from local people, the women set up a playgroup which now caters for 24 toddlers at a charge to mothers of just £1 a

into a state of dilapidation. Repairs are simply not being done.

"The whole housing situation is upside down."

He has recently taken up the case of a married couple, rehoused from a caravan into a four-bedroom house, who have been trying, unsuccessfully, to move into smaller accommodation. There is none available.

**OTHERS** cannot win rehousing, though they live in appalling conditions. Jimmy Harkin, a frail 79-year-old, lives alone in a privately rented cottage in the townland of Bearney.

A stench of damp pervades the tiny dwelling and he has had to sleep beside the kitchen fire since the bedroom windows blew in during the winter. Some months ago he applied for urgent rehousing, but despite having 84 points he has been unsuccessful.

ful.

The fact that Mr Harkin lives in the Mid-Ulster constituency did not deter McGuinness from taking up his case. After all, he drily points out, Sinn Féin does not recognise any British-imposed boundaries in Ireland. In fact, McGuinness originally ran the Strabane clinic jointly with Mid-Ulster elected representative Danny Morrison, until boundary changes made the town part of the Foyle constituency.

The advice centre has received numerous complaints about Housing Executive delays in carrying out repairs, exacerbated recently by British government cut-backs and the local Executive's new policy of putting many small repairs out to private tender.

Many houses in the small Drumrallagh estate, for example, suffer from persistent dampness and draughts. Every three months, John Connolly has to re-paper a wall of the bathroom and kitchen of the family's home on the estate. Mould has blackened the inside of the food cupboard, and the ceilings are blistered by damp. The trouble started shortly after the family moved into the new house 13 years ago.

Theirs is by no means the worst-affected house on the estate but, despite numerous complaints, the Housing Executive has done nothing, putting the blame on condensation.

John and his wife, 46-year-old Teresa, are angry at the Executive's indifference, and at the host of minor repairs they refuse to carry out. According to Teresa:

"They just class us as dirt. And to get out of here you need to be painted in gold."

**A**NOTHER case McGuinness has taken up is that of Mrs Patricia McColegan, one of many unemployed people in Strabane whom inadequate state benefits, and the punitive anti-people policies of state bodies, have forced into ever-worsening poverty and debt.

Patricia, aged 30, lives with her unemployed husband and their three young daughters in an all-electric 'upside-down' house on the Drumrallagh estate. After two meter break-ins, following which the amount stolen was added to her bill, she opted to pay quarterly. Since then the McColegans have accumulated arrears of £1,264.98. Patricia points out that the £3-odd allowed in their supplementary benefit to cover heating is totally inadequate to cover electricity charges.

She suffers from asthma, and with a tiny baby, Kirsty, now 4½ months old, in the house, during the last quarter alone their bill came to £350.

The Northern Ireland Electricity Service, not content with deducting £17 from the family's supplementary benefit, is demanding an additional £5 per week, which would leave £30 to feed, clothe and heat the family of five.

She blames the arrears on the house, which is difficult to heat, and on the Housing Executive, which last year refused to replace her electric central heating system with a cheaper coal fire.

"They just aren't willing to help you," she says. "We're being made to pay for their silly way of making houses. These houses weren't built for ordinary people on the dole."

Her case is by no means unusual in Strabane, where the majority of the population subsists on state benefits.

**WELFARE** rights is an area where McGuinness's workers have had considerable success, dealing with numerous cases involving delayed or reduced payments, and helping people to obtain grants for furniture and other items.

Overall, the volume of complaints is enormous, and in the near future Sinn Féin hopes to open a full-time advice centre in the middle of the town, staffed by a larger team of workers.

Yet, as McGuinness admits, the amount Sinn Féin advice workers can achieve for individuals is limited by the fact that the British government controls the resources allocated to Strabane.

To illustrate the point, he explains that a score of old people have asked the advice centre to push their cases to be allocated one of just three new pensioners' bungalows nearing completion in the town.

"All we can do is fight the case that the individual brings along. We tell people that we can't solve the unemployment situation until we get rid of the British, we can't solve the housing problem because Margaret Thatcher controls the amount of money given to the Housing Executive to build homes. But we are prepared to be part of the people's problems, and to assist them in whatever way we possibly can."

cher controls the amount of money given to the Housing Executive to build homes. But we are prepared to be part of the people's problems, and to assist them in whatever way we possibly can."

**M**ARTIN McGuinness believes that the advice centre will stimulate community action. He cites the recent experience of Derry, where contractors working on the Executive's refurbishing scheme in progress on the Creggan estate had left gardens littered with rubble and spent months working on individual houses.

After Sinn Féin's Creggan advice centre had received numerous complaints, tenants and community activists got together and formed the Creggan Residents' Action Group.

And as a result of that experience, tenants of six Bogside streets to be refurbished later this year have extracted promises from the Housing Executive that they will have a degree of control over the quality and timing of work.

At a meeting on March 7th, more than 40 residents of Meenan Park and five other streets, led by Martin McGuinness in his capacity as elected Sinn Féin representative, heard Housing Executive officials agree to the setting up of a steering committee, comprising tenants' representatives, contractors and the Executive, to supervise the refurbishing project.

Given a new lease of life by this success, the Meenan Park Tenants' Association is now discussing its detailed proposals for the project. McGuinness hopes that in Strabane too, nationalists will start to organise against the evils of unemployment, poverty and bad housing. He says:

"The problems can't be solved by me being in Strabane one, two or three days a week. The problem has to be sorted out in Strabane itself."

"It's only when the people of Strabane are prepared to organise themselves for the purpose of defeating British rule in Ireland, it's only then that they will have dignity, jobs and adequate housing."





● Two sisters who dedicated their lives to the cause of Irish freedom: Maureen and Bridie Dolan

## Death of Maureen Dolan

THE DEATH has taken place in Belfast, on Thursday, May 26th, of Maureen Dolan, a life-long member of Cumann na mBan. She was buried after Mass in St Oliver Plunkett's Chapel, on Friday afternoon.

Maureen Dolan dedicated her life to the republican cause.

She was first arrested on Easter Monday, March 29th 1937, when she, her two sisters and three friends refused to answer questions or remove the Easter Lilies they had worn to Mass in St Kevin's Church.

When they were brought to court they still refused to give their names and were sentenced by number — one to six receiving six weeks' imprisonment each. As they kept their silence in prison, they were released by number as well.

When her sister, Bridie Dolan, met with a severe accident whilst on active service in Leeson Street in 1938, in which she lost her hands and sight, Maureen devoted all her time to nursing and caring for her, until Bridie died, 37 years later, in 1975.

All through the '40s and '50s, the sisters were steadfast in their support for the Republican Movement and during the present campaign their home was always open as a refuge for members of O'Connell na hEirann.

Maureen Dolan was an inspiration to all who met her and her untimely death has brought sadness to both young and old republicans alike. She will be deeply missed, both as a comrade and a friend, especially by the officers and Volunteers of Cumann na mBan.

## Death of Leitrim republican

THE DEATH occurred on May 19th, at the James Connolly Memorial Hospital, Blanchardstown, of Jim Gallagher, Artane, a native of Kiltubrid, County Leitrim.

Jim Gallagher joined Na Fianna Éireann in 1918 and later became an active member of the IRA during the Tan War. After the Treaty he remained loyal to the republic, a loyalty he retained throughout his life. He was imprisoned under various coercion acts of the 1930s and was Training Officer of the IRA in Leitrim during the late 1920s and 1930s. He emigrated to England in the late 1930s but was deported back to Ireland.

At his funeral, the Republican Movement in Leitrim was represented by Sylvester Fitzsimons and Joe McGirl. The latter, as well as Paddy Earley, formerly of Drumana, paid tribute to the deceased.

The Republican Movement in Leitrim extend to his wife Rose (nee Gralton) and his three sons, daughter-in-law and relatives their sincere sympathy.

## Embassy 21

AT A MEETING in support of the Embassy 21 defendants, held in Monaghan town last Sunday, Sinn Féin vice-president Daithí O'Connell assured everyone of the party's resolve to ensure the best possible defence for those charged following the H-Block march to Dublin's British Embassy in June 1981.

Five of the 21 people charged, after the brutal attack by gardai on hunger-strike supporters at the Embassy, are from Monaghan and the specially convened meeting, attended by about 70 people was addressed by O'Connell and a representative of the Embassy 21 Defence Committee.

At the end of the meeting, the chairperson Caoimhín Ó Caoilain, proposed a motion in support of hunger-striker Nicky Kelly and which was passed unanimously.



A PEACEFUL protest outside the North's Housing Executive headquarters in Belfast's Adelaide Street, last Friday, May 27th, turned into a battlefield when the RUC launched a violent attack on the participants. Several people were injured, including a pregnant woman from Unity Flats, and four protestors were arrested.

BY JANE PLUNKETT

The protest, which was organised by the newly-formed West Belfast Tenants' Action Committee — representing 11 of West Belfast's worst housing blackspots — was called because of the Housing Executive's back-sliding on previously promised refurbishing schemes for those areas.

Over 150 people, mainly women and young children, marched from the Divis Flats complex — itself a monument to Housing Executive decay — to the city centre, where they blocked the road outside the Executive's offices.

### CONFRONTED

The protestors included Sinn Féin's Gerry Adams and three members of the Action Committee who were scheduled to meet officials inside the headquarters. All were confronted by a large force of RUC who, on an order from an inspector, moved in on the demonstrators, kicked and punched them

and dragged them along the ground.

One RUC man drew his revolver, whilst another hysterically called for his plastic bullet gun to "kill the Fenian bastards."

Andersonstown man Chris McKenna was flung to the ground holding his three-month-old baby daughter in his arms, while women were trampled under RUC boots as they lay screaming on the ground.

One woman, mother-of-three Mrs Cathy Donnelly from Beechmount, was crushed against a plate-glass window by two RUC men who kept pushing her into it.

"Only my hand got caught up in a wooden frame, I'm sure I'd have gone through the glass as I could

feel it giving under the pressure," says Mrs Donnelly. "All around me, people were screaming from punches and kicks and I saw my next-door neighbour being trampled by the RUC."

### ARRESTED

Four people, Sile Darragh, Jim Faulkner, Noel Goodman and Sean Keenan, were arrested and flung into an RUC landrover. They were later charged in Musgrave Street Barracks with assault, obstruction and breach of the peace. All four appeared in court on Tuesday, May 31st, and the case was adjourned until June 27th.

The bully-boy tactics of the

RUC, however, did not succeed in intimidating the demonstrators who resumed their protest for a further 30 minutes.

In a statement issued later, the West Belfast Tenants' Action Committee condemned the brutality of the sectarian RUC. The committee also stated that they had got "absolutely no satisfaction" from their meeting with Housing Executive officials who "blamed everything on lack of money".

"If the Housing Executive, as a public body, is not being properly funded," the statement said, "then its board should state this publicly. And if the situation continues then it should resign."

# Dundalk planning row

BY JACK MADDEN

A ROW is developing in Dundalk following a controversial application by a local Fianna Fáil party member for planning permission to build 130 houses in the town's North Ward. The application is being supported by Fianna Fáil members on the local council who, it is felt, are 'looking after one of their own'.

Among those opposing the application is Sinn Féin councillor Fra Browne. He points out that since the applicant, John Conway, bought the seven-acre site, five years ago, it had been allowed to deteriorate from agricultural land to a rat-infested dumping ground and that these conditions were now being used to win support for his development plan.

Since he bought the site, Conway has, with council approval, been dumping rubble on the land. The site is, however, unsupervised and has, over the years, become a general dump. Despite this, no attempt was made either to seal off the site with gates nor to clean up the mess which includes household and kitchen waste, dead poultry and broken bottles.

Two years ago, in an obvious attempt to test local reaction, Conway announced that he had secured planning permission 'by default' to develop the site for industrial use. It has since emerged that no such permission was either sought or granted and that Conway was simply preparing the ground-work for his current plan — to develop the site for housing.

The gains to be made from such development would be enormous.

The land was bought for £30,000 but its value would dramatically increase were it to become a housing area. At a cost of £10,000 for each of the 130 sites, and allowing £4,000 for development



● Sinn Féin councillor Fra Browne at the site which has become a dump as a result of property speculation

of each one, the venture would be worth £750,000 profit to Conway.

### COMPLAINED

Locals have consistently complained about the site, which was once a meadow where children played and is now both a physical and health hazard. They have asked for immediate remedial work by the council and hope that the site will be bought and developed as a local amenity area.

The prospect of having the site developed for private housing is unpopular with locals but is preferable to having the present situation continue. In

any event, an initial investigation has shown that it would be premature to build on the site since the ground needs more time to settle. Opposing the development, Fra Browne continued:

"Conway's long-term plan was to create the conditions for change in that the neglect of the site has made both locals and some councillors amenable to redevelopment plans."

Calling for "the immediate restoration of the area to its former condition", Browne is urging the council to immediately revoke the licence to dump which they granted Conway and to develop the site as an amenity.



# BURKE'S AT THE BACK

By Kevin Burke

SCOTLAND YARD really cocked up their election-shock-horror-terror-sensation story about the 'IRA Jackal' and his comrade who were poised to strike in London on Thursday last.

Sean O'Callaghan (alias 'The Jackal') was sitting innocently at home in Tralee, enjoying this latest 'Kerry joke', even as the Scotland Yard detectives scoured Britain for him.

And his highly dangerous accomplice, John Downey, was strolling down to collect his dole money in far-off Ballyshannon, County Donegal.

Even when the ridiculous story was exposed by the media, the stupid London cops insisted that these two have been 'successfully flushed out' of Britain, but they knew for an absolutely definite fact that two other highly dangerous IRA operatives were poised and ready to strike.

Of course it is not the first time that Scotland Yard has issued these fanciful fantasies to a mesmerised media.

Back in January 1979, Scotland Yard launched a similarly dramatic search for a 'dangerous terrorist' nicknamed 'Bald Eagle'. One idiot British policeman even spotted him, and was shot at by him, in a white Opel Kadett which was also on the wanted list.

Whilst all that media furor was going on, the man named as Bald Eagle, Con McHugh, was wandering around Belfast under the eyes of the bemused Brits and RUC. And the white Opel Kadett later turned out to have been in County Westmeath for several weeks before.

A few years before that, Scotland Yard launched an alert for Margaret McKearney who was said to be poised to launch a bombing campaign in England, whilst in fact she was shown to be working in Dublin throughout the scare.

Whatever about the British Bobby, he certainly isn't a fast learner.

★ ★ ★

Cardinal Tomas O'Fiach was in suitably sorrowful mood last Thursday as he lamented in front of the television cameras the shooting dead, earlier that day, of RUC man Colin Carson.

And bitterly did he condemn the perpetrators of this barbarous deed against a 'father of two children'.

His statement was also carried in Friday morning's newspapers.

But, try as I might, nowhere could I find any mention by the peace-loving prelate of the Catholic milkman, and father of four, Trevor Close, who was gunned down by loyalists just one hour before.

★ ★ ★

The SDLP, it seems, would secretly love to put off the election day of reckoning as far as possible, if their manifesto is anything to go by.

Page one of that dreary document seeks "a strong clear mandate from the electorate on the 19th June."

Several copies had been dispatched before someone eventually realised that everyone else was going to the polls 10 days earlier, and Tippet's correcting fluid was suddenly much in demand.

★ ★ ★

One badly shaken SDLP candidate appears to be the party's deputy-leader, Seamus Mallon, if his arrival at Monday's 'New Ireland Forum' is anything to go by.

As the various cars made their way into Dublin Castle they passed by various pickets including one by Sinn Féin members drawing attention to the disregarding of 64,000 nationalist voters.

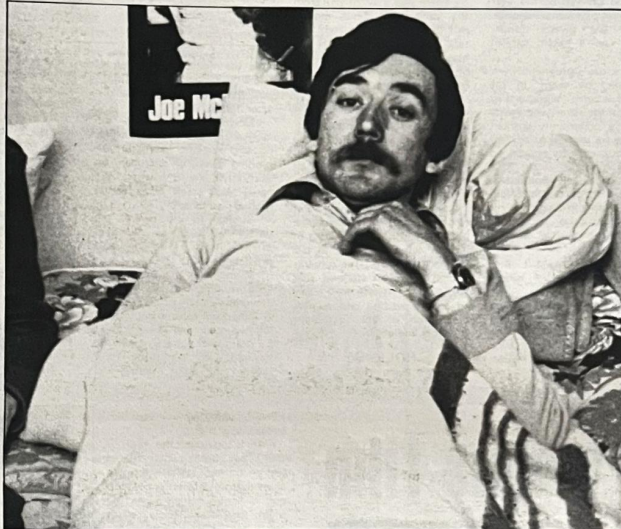
When the car bearing Mallon and Fianna Fáil's Brian Lenihan arrived, the SDLP man was seen to instruct the driver to stop. The over-emotional Armagh candidate opened the door and, to the obvious embarrassment of Lenihan, began to shout, "Call yourself fucking patriots?" at the Sinn Féin picketers.

Eventually he was persuaded to desist and was borne safely inside to the hic-storic opening ceremonies....er, ceremonies.

★ ★ ★

The level of RTE understanding of the

# The day of the Jackal



● Sean O'Callaghan, the 'Kerry Jackal', was undisturbed by reports of Scotland Yard's finest being on his trail

intricacies of Northern politics can be gauged from a conversation between myself and a researcher for the *Today Tonight* programme's profile of Mid-Ulster on Tuesday night, who phoned looking for a colour photograph of Danny Morrison.

"I get confused actually between Danny Morrison and Martin McGuinness," she confided innocently.

With such well-informed researchers it's little wonder that the up-front performers talk such unadulterated nonsense most of the time.

★ ★ ★

Two RUC soccer teams are off to Toronto for a tour beginning on June 10th; which is one way of getting away from the election results.

In the language of the sporting columnists, let us hope that the opposition marksmen are on target and get in plenty of first-time shots.

★ ★ ★

Just a few days after Winchester Crown

Court jailed six Paratroopers for the rape of a 15-year-old girl in Malta Barracks, Aldershot, three more Brits arrived in the same dock, admitting the rape of a 19-year-old woman.

The court heard how four Brits on guard-room duty at Lille Barracks, Aldershot, turned a blind eye to the sex attack by two soldiers and another guard joined in, tying the victim to a bed with parachute cord.

The three, described as 'heroes of the Falklands war', were sentenced to nine months' detention.

★ ★ ★

A British soldier serving with the Royal Green Jackets in the North, Dominic Flynn of Winchester, has been charged with the murder of his two-year-old step-daughter, whose body was found at the family home in Antrim town.

If he had used a plastic bullet gun to kill her he would, no doubt, have got away with it.



## WHAT'S ON

RELEASE NICKY KELLY  
SUPPORT ACTIVITIES  
See Page 12

SLIGO COUNTY FLEADH  
Friday, Saturday & Sunday  
3rd, 4th & 5th June  
Friday: Ceili Mor  
Featuring Longbridge Ceili Band  
Sunday: Ceili Mor  
Featuring Innisfree Ceili Band

RIVERSTOWN  
Entries for competitions will be taken  
at Riverstown office from 11am on  
Saturday

VOL MICHAEL GAUGHAN  
COMMEMORATION  
(9th Anniversary)  
1pm Sunday 5th June  
Parkhurst Prison  
NEWPORT  
Isle of Wight  
England  
Organised by Sinn Féin

JOHN TURNLY COMMEMORATION  
(3rd Anniversary)  
2.30pm Sunday 5th June  
Ballymena Road  
CAMLOUGH  
County Armagh  
Prominent speaker

ANNUAL SPONSORED  
10 KILOMETRE FREEDOM WALK  
2.30pm Sunday 5th June  
5 Blessington Street  
DUBLIN  
In aid of An Cumann Cabhrach &  
Sinn Féin

BALLAD SESSION  
Featuring Drowey Maggie  
& guests  
Saturday 11th June  
Fiddler's Green  
Harold's Cross Bridge  
DUBLIN  
Admission £1.50 (waged), £1 (unwaged)  
Raffle for Portlaoise Mahogany table  
will also be held  
Organised by Sinn Féin

DUBLIN SINN FEIN  
EDUCATION SEMINAR  
10.30am to 5.30pm Saturday & Sunday  
11th/12th June  
5 Blessington Street  
DUBLIN

COMHAIRE CUIGE MUMHAN  
MEETING  
2.30pm Sunday 12th June  
The Mechanics Institute  
Harstonge Street  
LIMERICK  
All comhairle ceantair delegates  
to attend

MARTIN WHITE COMMEMORATION  
(10th Anniversary)  
3pm Sunday 12th June  
LISDOONVARNA  
County Clare  
Speaker: Ruairi O'Bradaigh

'MEN OF THE CAVES'  
COMMEMORATION  
(60th Anniversary)  
3pm Sunday 12th June  
Sliabhanna Cross  
CLASHMEECON  
County Kerry  
Prominent speaker

REPUBLICAN REUNION  
Featuring The Merry Macs  
8.30pm Monday 13th June  
The Ashley Arms  
DUNDALK  
Admission £4

IRISH NIGHT  
Featuring Clan Dew  
Friday 17th June  
Kavenagh's Hide-out  
INNISKEEN  
County Monaghan  
Admission £2  
Organised by Sinn Féin

DUBLIN BUSES FOR BODENSTOWN  
Sunday 19th June  
12 noon Annesley Bridge  
North Strand  
Bookings at 5 Blessington Street or  
local AP/RN sellers  
12 noon St Catherine's Church-  
Thomas Street  
Picking up at Liberties/Inchicore  
Clondalkin  
Bookings at AP/RN, 44 Parnell Square  
12.30pm Art Gallery  
Parnell Square  
Bookings at 5 Blessington Street  
Tickets £2.50 (waged), £2 (unwaged)

LURGAN BUS FOR BODENSTOWN  
Bookings at Sinn Féin office,  
North Street, Lurgan,  
or Sinn Féin members  
Tickets £4



TV

# Sitting on a volcano

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

RTE'S *TODAY TONIGHT* dealt with the problem of drug abuse in Dublin in two programmes last Wednesday and Thursday nights. Working-class areas of Dublin have been suffering from the effects of this growing menace for years, but only now that it is affecting the 'nice' areas, and middle-class kids are becoming users, is the 'drug problem' considered by RTE to constitute an emergency.

The first programme, on Wednesday, was a 'shock-horror' expose of the easy availability of heroin, interviews with addicts and ex-addicts, and some coverage of the organisations trying to solve the problem.

As reported in last week's *An Phoblacht/Republican News*, Christy Burke, a Sinn Féin community worker in the inner city, was barred from the programme.

Christy Burke, as local people said, has done more than anyone else in the area to help young people to get off drugs and to stop pushing in the area. It is a measure of *Today Tonight*'s priorities that an editorial instruction was given to divert a sizeable amount of air-time away from the problem supposedly under examination to attack Sinn Féin.

## TOKEN

On Thursday the programme was a follow-up discussion at-

tended by community workers (again no Christy Burke), representatives of tenants' associations, a few priests, former addicts, and a token, current addict.

Wednesday's programme was condemned by many in the audience as being "sensationalist media manipulation" and Paddy Malone, a community worker, told how he was asked to "get young pushers" to appear on the programme.

The panel, all politicians, included, of course, the regulation Sticky Workers' Party member, Proinsias de Rosca, whose contribution to the discussion was:

"It's not my fault that nothing was done. I wasn't elected." (I)

Pat Kenny's eagerness to please his editor resulted in him saying near the end of the programme:

"Let's get back to Proinsias de Rosca, we haven't heard

from him much." But de Rosca, or Frank Ross as he is known when visiting in the six counties, still had nothing to say. The Workers' Party are not ideologically interested in people who have no economic power, and, to them, young working-class drug addicts and their frantic parents and neighbours are not worth bothering about.

There was a lot of talk from the politicians about reports and surveys and research and task forces and more cops and bigger prisons. Joe Costello, of the Prisoners' Rights Organisation, put that sort of talk in the perspective of a society that is itself drugged by alcohol, valium and tobacco and suggested that the aim should be the elimination of the deprivation that causes the abuse of all drugs.

In the last minutes of Thursday's programme, Pat Kenny, determined to dangle his 'catch', finally succeeded in forcing a reluctant boy in the audience to speak. The cameras homed in on his strained, sick face and the viewers were treated to his halting and painful description of the first signs of heroin addiction.

## HOLIDAY

UTV's Bank Holiday Mon-



● A kit for 'snorting' heroin and cocaine — all of a sudden, because the drug problem is hitting middle-class kids, the media has taken an interest; the problem has been with working-class families for years but then it's not considered important what happens to them, is it?

day film was one of those disaster movies.

Dormant volcano on exclusive holiday island blows up and red-hot lava and exploding fireballs encroach on the hotel. Paul Newman, the hero, leads small party across molten lava to safety.

Strange to see several big names as well as Newman in this very third-rate and predictable film.

There was a nice coincidence though on the *News at Ten* immediately after the film. A long-dead volcano in Iceland has erupted and has burned a hole through an ice-foe thousands of feet thick. Film showed the scene, smoke and

volcanic ash being forced up through the ice and scattered for miles around.

Fact is stranger, and definitely more interesting, than fiction.

What an absolute delight to witness the frustrated fulminations of Sticky RTE reporter Joe Little on *Today Tonight* — *The Workers' Programme* on Tuesday night which profiled the Mid-Ulster constituency.

Guided by fellow secret-Sticky Joe Mulholland, the programme's editor, Little got every party's name right, except Sinn Féin, which throughout had to be called 'The Provisionals'.

Suitably sinister music play-

ed in the background as Little pleaded for our sympathy for the marching RUC men mourning the latest of their number to get his just deserts.

And how poor Little writhed with impotent fury as he spewed out his carefully prepared phrases of hatred against republicans and their supporters in his totally one-sided onslaught.

I am not sure how many Mid-Ulster voters can get RTE, but let us hope most of them can and were tuned in for this beautifully biased broadcast.

Section 31 may have prevented Sinn Féin's Danny Morrison from replying, but the programme would surely secure him thousands of extra votes!

# Bad Boys—worse film

BY EDDIE STACK

AS A FILM purporting to be an enlightened look at juvenile prisons in America, *Bad Boys* would appear to be worthy of discussion. But a close look at who holds the purse-strings in this production immediately tells the viewer that if he really wants to know about prison life in the good ole US of A, he can get himself arrested over there.

*Bad Boys* is a Thorn-EMI production. This British company, having long sought to crack the American film market with such huge turkeys as *Raise the Titanic*, and losing millions of pounds in the process, have now tried to creep into America through the back door. The result is a film made in America by Americans to be seen by Americans. The money, however, goes to the City of London.

It is no surprise therefore to find that *Bad Boys* is a piece of hack work made to order for some profit-obsessed moguls. Its weary theme, that of the criminal who could have been 'good' but turns out 'bad' has been

with us ever since Eve offered Adam a Golden Delicious in the garden of Eden.

Set in the ethnic ghettos of Chicago, our story begins when the Cuban/Spanish/Puerto Rican /American gang knock off a massive drugs haul with the intention of selling the stuff to the even meaner Nigerian/Zambian/Moroccan/American gang who actually intend to whip the stuff without paying a dime. Their rendezvous is overheard by Mick O'Brien, the not quite as mean Irish-American (played by an actor about as Irish as the Hitler Diaries).

There is a massive showdown and in the confusion Mick O'

## FILM

Brien, in trying to steal the drugs, accidentally kills the kid brother of the leader of the Cuban / Spanish / Puerto Rican / American gang, is caught and sent to a juvenile prison.

## CLIMAX

Meanwhile, back in the ethnic ghetto, the Cuban/Spanish/Puerto Rican/American gang leader, Paco Caminose, is upset. He has lost not only his kid brother but the drugs as well. Sworn to avenge the death by his mother, Caminose rapes O'Brien's girlfriend but is caught by the police. He is, of course, sent, would you believe it, to the same prison as O'Brien due to, ahem, 'overcrowding'.

And so the scene is set for the exciting climax. Will the not so mean O'Brien stay out of trouble and go free to his girlfriend who 'really believes in

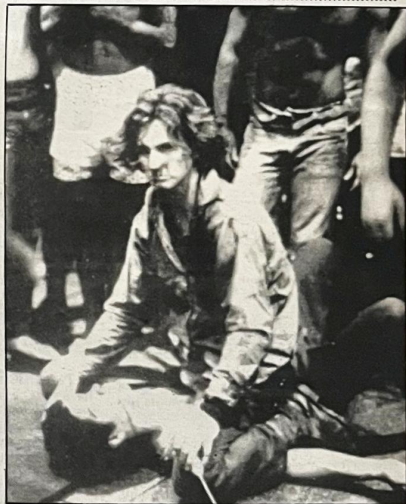
him', or will Caminose stab him in his bed at night?

As is obvious, the plot of *Bad Boys* holds water like a leaky bucket. What actually saves it from disaster is competent direction which gives the main characters some slight depth and a motivation for existing. The action is kept fast and furious and on that level the picture gives some satisfaction.

It is only when the prison psychiatrist, seeing that O'Brien is not quite so mean, gives him some pearls of wisdom about life and choice and good and bad that the audience starts reaching for the sick-bag.

*Bad Boys* makes no serious attempt to understand crime in society. Such commercial filmmakers obviously feel that to even try would bore their audience. The fact is that their talents are not up to making a serious treatment interesting. And so we have the spectacle of British money-makers prove that what American film-makers do, they can do better — pander to the lowest instincts of their audience.

As the man once said, if America treats its prisoners the way it treated him, it doesn't deserve to have any.



● The not so mean Mick O'Brien on top in *Bad Boys*

# Clannad's game

BY JACK MADDEN

IF YOU LIKED the hit single *Theme from Harry's Game*, then you'll probably take to this latest album from Clannad on the Tara label. The production is lush, the harmonies soft and ethereal. Easy listening is the word, much too easy for this reviewer's ear as track after track slid harmlessly by without making much of a dent in the memory.

What runs through my mind instead is Maire Ni Bhraonain's marvellous voice off that first homespun album from Clannad 10 years ago, singing the melodic *Níl sé ina Lá*. Not that the group should stand still, but it seems a pity that so much elaboration should go into a production so lacking in energy or colour.

Little is heard of the Clannad flair for innovation and mixing of musical styles, and while half the tracks on the new album were self-written, by Pol and Claran Braonain and Padraig O Dugain, the melodies are only

average. In fact the most spirited song is the one from Jim Rafferty that starts *Side Two*, with a lot of successful instrumental touches, and the nearest the album comes to a climax is the final track *Thíos F'n Chásta* with good hard drumming, and a touch of electric guitar from the guesting hand of Ed Deane.

## TONGUE-IN-CHEEK

Well, fair enough, if the group wants to play *Harry's Game* all the way to the bank, and if they do look deadly serious for their sleek album

## MUSIC

photography, I'd imagine there's an amount of tongue-in-cheek as well.

*Newgrange* is a likely candidate to emulate *Harry's* success — with haunting harmonies and an Irish chorus that even *Top of the Pops* could take to, going "Rum de Rum 'ud a deirim a."

There are four traditional arrangements on the album. Here Maire comes closer to her true voice but the overall feel is still restrained and synthetic.

On the only instrumental track, *The Fairy Queen*, the sound, for once, is allowed to remain clear and uncluttered.

This album then is the story of a group being dominated by a production that doesn't suit them, that subdues the best vocal qualities of Maire Ni Bhraonain and allows no outlet for the creative fusion of styles of which Clannad are capable.

No doubt when the few bob has been made the Gweedore folk will still have their feet on the ground, and an ear to their own voice and roots.





# Frank Driver commemoration

A MONUMENT in honour of the late Frank Driver, former Adjutant of the IRA's Kildare Battalion and honorary vice-president of Sinn Féin, was unveiled at a well-attended commemoration in Ballymore Eustace, County Kildare, on Sunday last.

The commemoration began with a parade through the town led by a colour party of Na Fianna Éireann. After the monument had been unveiled by Joe Cahill of Sinn Féin's old comhairle, wreaths were laid on behalf of the Republican Movement, local Sinn Féin cumann and the National Graves Association.

Christy Nolan, of Blessington Sinn Féin, chaired the public meeting which was addressed by Sinn Féin president Ruairi O Bradaigh. He recalled the life



of Frank Driver and the part he played in the struggle for national liberation. His support never wavered, said O Bradaigh, "even when many of his comrades chose to take the primrose path to

Leinster House."

Special tribute was paid to the monument's sculptor, Michael McEvoy, whose work was described as befitting the man it commemorated.

which was chaired by Sinn Féin and comhairle member Pat Doherty of Carrigart, County Donegal.

Following the reading of the Donegal roll of honour, a decade of the Rosary and the reading of the 1916 Proclamation, the oration was delivered by Paddy Bolger, Sinn Féin national organiser.

The commemoration was organised by local Sinn Féin cumann and the occasion was also used to announce the formation of Nicky Kelly support groups in the area.

The proceedings closed with a rendering of the National Anthem by the McBrearty/Maguire band.

## Donegal ceremony

A LARGE local attendance of 200 people was present in Kincasslagh, the Rosses, County Donegal, to pay tribute on the 60th anniversary of the death of Neil 'Plunkett' Boyle who was the last IRA Volunteer to die in action in the Civil War.

Also commemorated were Owen Boyle and Con Boyle of the Rosses, and George McBrearty and Charles Maguire, both Derry city Volunteers who were murdered two years ago by a plain-clothes SAS squad.

The short parade from the village to

Kincasslagh Churchyard was led by a 10-strong IRA colour party in full military dress and the McBrearty/Maguire Memorial Band from Derry.

Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Republican Movement and individuals before the commemorative meeting,

## Rish Lesson

Clog (klug) - a clock  
Am (om) - time  
A haon (uh hayn) - one  
A dó (uh do) - two  
A trí (uh three) - three  
A ceathair (uh kahir) - four  
A cúig (uh koo-ig) - five  
A sé (uh shay) - six  
Cé t-am é? (kayn tom ay) - What time is it?  
Chena féin (hanna fayn) - already  
A haon a clog (uh hayn uh klug) - one o'clock  
Tá sé a haon a clog - It is one o'clock.  
Ní sé a dó a clog - It is not two o'clock.

**PRONUNCIATION**  
The pronunciation given in brackets is as near as possible to the sound.

CH is sounded as in LOCH ERNE.  
D and T before A, O and U are thick, spoken with the tongue pressed against the upper front teeth.

DH and GH are like a G far back in the throat - almost a gargle.

Bhí an fear ainsear a trí a clog - The man was there at three o'clock.  
Ní raibh an dochtóir anseo ar a ceathair a clog - The doctor was not here at four o'clock.  
Cá raibh tú ar a cúig a clog? - Where

were you at five o'clock?  
An bhfuil sé a dó a clog chena féin? - Is it six o'clock already?

**PHRASES**

1-Féilim Máire ar a sé a clog gach maidin (feikim mah-ree ar uh shay uh chlog gach modyin) - I see Mary at six o'clock every morning.

2-Gleim dooch ar a cúig a clog (ole-im dyuch er uh koo-ig uh chlog) - I drink a drink at five o'clock.

3-An bhfuil an t-am agat? (un wil tom agat) - Have you the time?  
4-Níl son am agam anois (neel syn om ogum anois) - I have no time now.

## REMEMBERING THE PAST

# A titled revolutionary

BY PETER O'ROURKE

LORD EDWARD Fitzgerald, the fifth son of the Earl of Kildare, was born in 1763.

After the death of his father, the family went to live in France.

Later, showing a liking for a military career, at the age of 16 Fitzgerald enlisted in the Sussex Militia and saw service in both America and Canada.

On his return to Ireland he was elected as MP for Kildare but was not long in the Irish parliament before he came to realise how unjustly the Irish people were being treated under a corrupt and undemocratic regime.

Attracted by the new thinking inspired by the French Revolution, Fitzgerald visited Paris in 1792 and stayed with Thomas Paine.

At a dinner for British residents in Paris he proposed a toast to "the speedy abolition of all hereditary titles", thus incurring the wrath of British officials everywhere. As a result, he was cashiered from the British army.

It was during Fitzgerald's stay in Paris that he married Pamela, daughter of the Duke of Orleans.

He returned to Ireland in 1793 and

quickly showed parliament where his sympathies lay, denouncing the government for prohibiting a meeting of the Volunteers. Losing hope of constitutional reform, he joined the United Irishmen, who were openly advocating the establishment of an independent Irish republic.

Together with Arthur O'Connor, he again visited Paris, in 1796, to obtain from General Hoche French military aid for Ireland. During the following two years he undertook intensive preparations for the insurrection which was planned to take place in the summer of 1798.

Following the arrest of eight members of the United Irishmen, in March 1798, a reward of £1,000 was offered for information leading to the capture of Fitzgerald.

### INFORMER

Betrayed by an informer, he was seized by Major Sirr in Thomas Street in Dublin's Liberties area. A fierce struggle

ensued in which Fitzgerald killed one of his attackers but was also wounded himself.

Lodged in Navagete Prison, he became progressively weaker and his wound began to fester, yet he was denied the medical treatment he so badly needed.

As a result of his wound, Lord Edward Fitzgerald, revolutionary and United Irishman, died on June 4th 1798.

all about you, and teaches us rebel songs - she must want us to be Provs. From nephews Michael and Christopher, and niece Lisa, UTP.

KIRBY, Terry. (H8-Block). Greetings to our dearest son, Terry. Get well soon. Best wishes from all the family, especially from mum and dad.

O'BOYLE, Eoin & Michael. (Magilligan). Congratulations on completing four years. Keep up the struggle - we're all behind you from John, Esther and family, Dublin.

O'BOYLE, Eoin & Michael. (Magilligan). Congratulations on completing four years. Eoin and Michael. You'll be out again, it won't be long, we'll have a few plants, and a good singing. From Ann, Patricia, Tina and the Cash family, Dublin.

## GREETINGS

birthday, Kevin. Cheer up, sure it won't be long until you can have that drink yourself. From the Cash and Boyle families, Dublin.

HEANEY, Martin. (H5-Block). Happy birthday, 'our boy', weather and accommodation marvellous, too great, etc. around 1990. From brother Tony, Hotel Grande, Portlaoise.

HEANEY, Martin. (H5-Block). Happy birthday on May 31st to my 'godfather', From Christopher Anthony.

HEANEY, Martin. (H5-Block). Happy birthday, uncle Marty. Mammy tells us

## Memorial

GAUGHAN, Michael. (9th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Michael Gaughan, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who died on hunger-strike on June 3rd 1974 while on hunger-strike in Parkhurst Prison, Isle of Wight. He shall be spoken of among his people and the generations shall remember him and call him blessed. Never forgotten by his friends and comrades in the Republican Movement.

GAUGHAN, Michael. (9th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of IRA Vol Michael Gaughan who died on hunger-strike in Parkhurst Prison, England, on June 3rd 1974. "So what good prison do? It has not 'reformed' me nor has it broken me. The road to freedom knows no 'stop' points and is not a road for those who stop to rest." - Michael Gaughan. Always remembered by his friends and comrades Phil Sheridan and Mick Sheehan, Dublin.

GAUGHAN, Michael. (9th Anniversary). In proud memory of our comrade Vol Michael Gaughan, who died on hunger-strike in Parkhurst Prison on June 3rd 1974. Fuaill sé bás ar son saoirse na hÉireann. Never forgotten by his friends in Luton, St Albans and Hemel Hempstead. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Republican Movement. (5th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Heaney, who died on June 4th 1978 in the military wing of Musgrave Park Hospital. A brave and fine soldier for Ireland. He died with a smile. We must never give up. Always remembered by his loving wife Teresa, sons, daughters, sons and daughters-in-law and grandchildren.

HEANEY, Henry. (5th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Heaney, who died on June 4th 1978 in the military wing of Musgrave Park Hospital. Weep not for him with useless tears, but think of him with pride, for Ireland he fought, and for Ireland he died. Always remembered by his Gerard, daughter-in-law Geraldine and children.

HEANEY, Henry. (5th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear father and grandfather, Vol Henry Heaney, who died on June 4th 1978 in the military wing of Musgrave Park Hospital. Weep not for him with useless tears, but think of him with pride, for Ireland he fought, and for Ireland he died. Always remembered by his Gerard, daughter-in-law Geraldine and children.

HEANEY, Henry. (5th Anniversary). In loving memory of Vol Heaney, who died on June 4th 1978 in the military wing of Musgrave Park Hospital whilst on hunger-strike. It is a crime to love Ireland, Lord, then a felon I'm proud to be. Remembered always by the Tom Williams/Thomas Hart, Sinn Féin cumann, Lurgan.

HEANEY, Henry. (5th Anniversary). In loving memory of Vol Henry Heaney who died on June 4th 1978 in the military wing of Musgrave Park Hospital whilst imprisoned by the British. Far dead the grave of the prison illum'd by one patriot name, than the trophies of all who have risen on liberty's ruins to fame. Remembered always by the North Armagh Sinn Féin comhairle ceantair.

JORDAN, Francis. (8th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Francis Jordan, Óglaigh na hÉireann, South Armagh, who died on active service on June 4th 1975. Thus sé a raibh aige as troid ar son saoirse muintir na hÉireann. Never forgotten by his friends and comrades in Óglaigh na hÉireann, South Armagh.

MCBREARTY, George. (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my son and our brother, Vol George McBrearty, Derry Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was murdered by the SAS on May 28th 1981. RIP. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for him. May the sod of his beloved Ireland rest lightly upon him. Remembered always by his mother, brothers and sisters.

MCBREARTY, George. (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my brother, Vol George McBrearty, Derry Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was murdered by the SAS on May 28th 1981. RIP. "In every generation our best and bravest have died. Sometimes in our brief lives we cry foolish and unthinking words, 'The sacrifice is too great', but still we know it was because they were our best and bravest that they died." He died as he lived - a selfless, dedicated republican. Never forgotten by his loving sister Betty.

MCBREARTY, George. (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of

my brother, George, who was murdered by the SAS on May 28th 1981. RIP. "Wherever death surprises us, it is welcome, provided that our battle cry, reaches some receptive ear that other arms stretch out to take up weapons, that others step forward to intone our funeral dirge with the staccato chant of machine guns and new battle cries of war and victory." Tiochfaid sé é. Always remembered by his brother Danny, sister-in-law Maoinn, Derry and Clara, Letterkenny.

MCBREARTY, George. (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol George McBrearty and Charles 'Pop' Maguire who were killed on active service on May 28th 1981. Our Lady, Queen of Ireland, pray for them. "Wherever death may surprise us, it will be welcome, provided that our battle cry reaches some receptive ear, that another hand stretches out to take up weapons and that other men come forward to intone our funeral dirge with the staccato of machine guns and new cries of battle and victory." Never forgotten by their friends and comrades Kevin, Paddy, Monica, Wilkie, Daddie, Digger, Aitsy, Tony, Paul, Richie, Sody, Danny, Camie, Colin, Martin and Eugene.

MCBREARTY, George. (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol George McBrearty and Charles 'Pop' Maguire, who were killed in action by the SAS on May 28th 1981. Always remembered by the McBrearty/Charles Maguire Memorial Flute Band, Derry.

MCBREARTY, George. (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol George McBrearty and Charles 'Pop' Maguire, who were killed in action by the SAS on May 28th 1981. Our Lady, Queen of Ireland, pray for them. "Wherever death may surprise us, it will be welcome, provided that this, our battle cry, reaches some receptive ear that other hands stretch out to take up weapons and that other men come forward to intone our funeral dirge with the staccato of machine guns and new cries of battle and victory." Never forgotten by their friend and comrade Kevin Paddy, Derry.

MCBREARTY, George. (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Charles 'Pop' Maguire, Derry Brigade, IRA, who was killed on active service by British forces on May 28th 1981. Your struggle and sacrifice will never be forgotten, your spirit lives on. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. Remembered always by Josephine and Anthony Finnegan, Dundalk.

MCBREARTY, George. (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Charles 'Pop' Maguire, Derry Brigade, IRA, who was killed on active service by British forces on May 28th 1981. "Great er love hath no man than he who lays down his life for his country." Always remembered by Frankie McGee, Dundalk.

MULGREW, Colm. (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Colm Mulgrew, Sinn Féin, who was murdered by pro-British elements on June 5th 1976. I measc lachra na hGae go raibh a anar. Never forgotten by his friends and comrades in the Republican Movement, Belfast.

THE REPUBLICAN BOND ALLIANCE, SCOTLAND, has received word that ten republican POWs who gave their lives on hunger-strike in Long Kesh in 1981 and their comrades who died in English prisons. "It lights the dark of this prison cell, it thunders forth its might, it is the undaunted thought, my friend, the thought that says 'I'm right'." - Bobby Sands.

MEAD. The Republican Movement extend their sincere sympathy to the family of Walter Mead, who died recently. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. MEAD, The St. James' Martyrs Sinn Féin Cumann, Belfast, deeply regret the death of Walter Mead and extend their condolences to his widows and Heart of Jesus, have mercy upon him.

## SYMPATHY

McCabe, The O/C, Staff and Volunteers, Óglaigh na hÉireann, Portlaoise Prison, extend their deepest sympathy to our comrade, Frank McCabe, on the recent death of his father.

## Annual Wolfe Tone commemoration

2.30pm Sunday 19th June

BODENSTOWN

Sallins

County Kildare

EVER OF BODENSTOWN

REPUBLICAN

REUNION DINNER

Saturday 18th June

The Spa Hotel

LUCAN

County Dublin

Tickets £10, available from Bob

Smith, An Cumann Cabhrach,

44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

CUNNINGHAM, Anthony; GILLESPIE, Ann. (Long Lartin & Styl). Birthday greetings, Anthony and Ann. We're thinking of you. From An Cumann Cabhrach, Walkinstown, Dublin.

CUNNINGHAM, Anthony; GILLESPIE, Ann. (Long Lartin & Styl). Happy birthday, Kevin. (H3-Block). Anthony and Ann. From the Sinn Féin POW Dept, Dublin.

DERRY, Kevin. (H4-Block). Happy birthday, Kevin. What age did you say you were (ha! ha!). Lots of love from the one in the black gear, Dublin 11.

DERRY, Kevin. (H3-Block). Happy birthday, Kevin. We'll have a drink for you, seeing you can't have one for yourself. From Ann, Tina and Jason, Dublin 11.

DERRY, Kevin. (H3-Block). Happy



# 'Free Nicky Kelly' demand grows

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

FOR THE SECOND time in the space of a week, the Coalition Minister for Justice, Michael Noonan, has expressed his intention to let Nicky Kelly die on hunger-strike rather than allow the innocent man to go free.

Noonan's latest 'not-an-inch' statement came on Tuesday in Leinster House in response to a plea from Tony Gregory, Dublin Central TD, on Kelly's behalf.

Nicky Kelly was moved to the Curragh Military Hospital on Friday of last week, May 27th. In an unnecessary act of cruelty, his sister, Brenda, was only allowed to see him there through a grille and reported that he was very gaunt but still able to walk and is determined to continue his fast.

The increasing urgency of Kelly's situation is reflected in the growing numbers of calls for his release from concerned organisations and individuals.

Kerry County Council, Roscommon County Council, Sligo County Council, Naas Urban District Council, Condradh na Gaeltige and the Irish Council for Civil Liberties have made appeals for his release in the last week.

On Thursday of last week, 100 people demonstrated outside Garret Fitzgerald's home in Palmerston Road, Rathmines, and on Saturday, May 28th, demonstrations were

held in Dublin, Limerick, Cork, Sligo and Waterford. More than 1,000 people took part in the Dublin rally.

## PREDICTABLE

Reaction from the Free State political parties has been all too predictable.

Fianna Fail's Sean Doherty suggested that he was about to order an investigation of Kelly's case just before he ended his term as Minister for Justice last December. But Fianna Fail has remained silent.

On Monday, Labour Party leader Dick Spring denied reports in that morning's papers that ministers of his party were in opposition to Noonan on the issue inside the cabinet. And he stated that, although 'concerned', he was not in disagreement with the Free State government line.

Manifestations of support for Nicky Kelly around the twenty-six counties include banners demanding his release hanging in Drogheda's main street and a 30-foot high slogan on Ben Bulbin in County Sligo reading simply 'Nicky Kelly'.



## Release Nicky Kelly activities

Every weekday evening, 5.15 to 6.15pm: Picket on O'Connell Bridge, Dublin.

Every weekday evening, 5 to 6pm: Picket at Jones's Road, Inchicore, Dublin.

Every Friday evening, 5 to 6pm: Picket on Portobello Bridge, Rathmines, and Dolphin's Barn, Dublin.

Thursday, June 2nd, 8pm: Public meeting in the Mansion House, Dublin. Speakers include Brendan Ryan, Ulick

O'Connor, Kadar Asmal, Ben Kearney (Dublin Trades Council president) and Osgur Breathnach.

Friday, June 3rd, 7pm: 24-hour vigil outside Garret Fitzgerald's house, Palmerston Road, Rathmines, Dublin.

Monday, June 6th, 9am: 72-hour hunger-strike at the GPO, Dublin.

Monday, June 6th, 2pm: March and rally at the Curragh. Assembly at the Racecourse Road at 1.30pm. Dublin buses leave Parnell Square at 12 noon.

Monday, June 6th, 8pm: Planning meeting, to organise a series of protests and other solidarity activities, at the Lake Glen Hotel, Andersonstown, Belfast. Everyone welcome.

Thursday, June 9th, 8pm: Public meeting in the Connolly Hall, Limerick. Speakers include Osgur Breathnach.

Saturday, June 11th, 2.30pm: March from Parnell Square, Dublin. Marches will also take place in Cork, Letterkenny and Waterford — details to follow.



## Loyalist killers gun down milkman

A 32-YEAR-OLD Catholic milkman, from the Cliftonville area of North Belfast, was gunned down by loyalist assassins in the early hours of last Thursday morning, May 26th, as he delivered milk to Trainor's newsagents shop on the Cliftonville Road, part of his normal delivery routine.

The victim, Trevor Close, a father of four from nearby Linden Gardens, was shot six times in the neck and chest at point-blank range by two gunmen.

Mr Close was rushed to the Mater Hospital and underwent an emergency operation but doctors

were unable to save his life and he died later that evening.

The getaway car which his attackers used had been hijacked at gunpoint shortly before 7am on Thursday morning from the loyalist Shankill Road and was found after the shooting in Snugville Street in the same area.

## 'Armagh youth shot in back' — inquest

DISCREPANCIES and conflicting evidence by UDR soldiers at the two-day inquest held last week in Armagh into the circumstances surrounding the fatal shooting in January 1982 of local man Tony Harker, confirmed that the youth had been shot in the back and, contrary to UDR claims at the time, was not armed with any weapon.

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

The two UDR men involved in the shooting, only identified at the inquest as Soldiers 'D' and 'E', were part of a patrol which had been engaged in checking out premises adjacent to Hillock's timber yard at Dobbin Lane, which had been the target of an incendiary explosion on the night of January 24th.

The UDR men opened fire on Tony Harker whom they discovered at the rear of McAnearney's supermarket and garage complex.

Soldier 'D' stated that Harker had "suddenly spun round in a crouched position with his arm extended" while Soldier 'E' added in evidence that Harker had "turned round with his right arm raised as though he had a gun or pistol."

Post-mortem evidence, however, exposed completely both UDR men's evidence as a concocted lie as Tony Harker was killed by a high-velocity bullet which entered his back and exited through his chest.

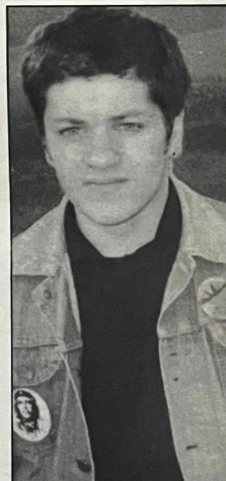
## FORENSIC

No weapons were found either

on Tony Harker's body or in the vicinity of the shooting and in evidence a forensic expert told the coroner that a person need not discharge a weapon to have particles left on their person or on clothing and that such particles can be transferred from other persons having firearms. On this occasion, he concluded that the particles of residue found on Tony Harker's duffle-coat, hand and hair had been transmitted to him by the UDR man who shot him.

Aged 21 at the time of his death, Tony Harker had endured a prolonged vendetta by crown forces over a three-year period, so much so that he had catalogued in his diary the number of harassment incidents, a substantial proportion of which involved the UDR in Armagh with whom Tony was a popular target for abuse.

On the night of January 24th, they made doubly sure that Tony Harker would never again log another entry in his diary.



● Tony Harker: a tireless H-Block activist during the three months between January 18th and March 18th 1980 he was stopped by the crown forces on no less than 70 separate occasions



● SHARON HARMON

## NEW LODGE CHILD ASSAULTED BY RUC

AROUND 8.25pm on Monday, May 30th, 11-year-old Sharon Harmon, from Sheridan Street in the New Lodge area of Belfast, was standing chatting to a friend close to her home when, without reason, an RUC mobile patrol pulled to a halt beside them and one RUC man demanded to know why Sharon was "standing about the streets."

Sharon tried to explain that it was early

and she was in fact in her own street but the RUC man yelled at her: "You're a cheeky bastard!"

He then jumped out of the jeep, roughly grabbed Sharon by the hair and dragged her into the back of the landrover, ripping her cardigan off. Sharon's mother, who demanded to know why her daughter was in the landrover, was told that they were going to "teach her a lesson."

Sharon was taken, bewildered and shaken, to North Queen Street Barracks where

she was illegally questioned in the absence of her parents for over an hour about the family background and was verbally abused, being called a 'Fenian slut'.

Mr and Mrs Harmon were reunited with their terrified daughter at 9.30pm with no apology from the RUC for either the anguish they had deliberately caused them nor for the brutal treatment to which they subjected Sharon. The Harmons are now taking legal advice on the matter.