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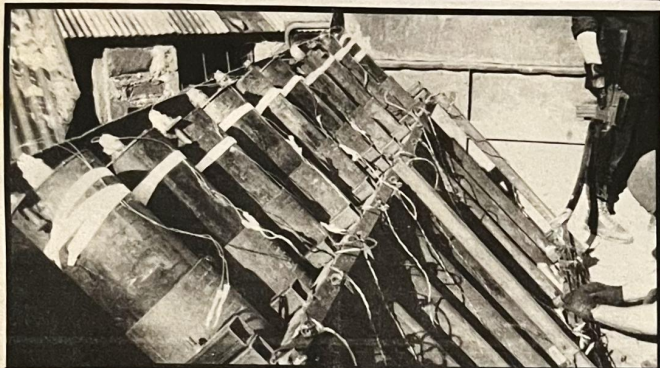
IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING
POLITICAL WEEKLY



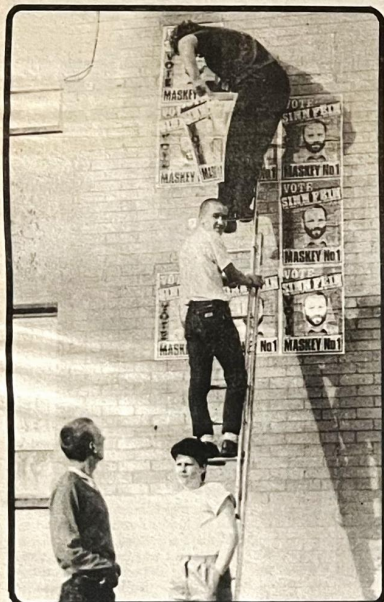
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Republican News

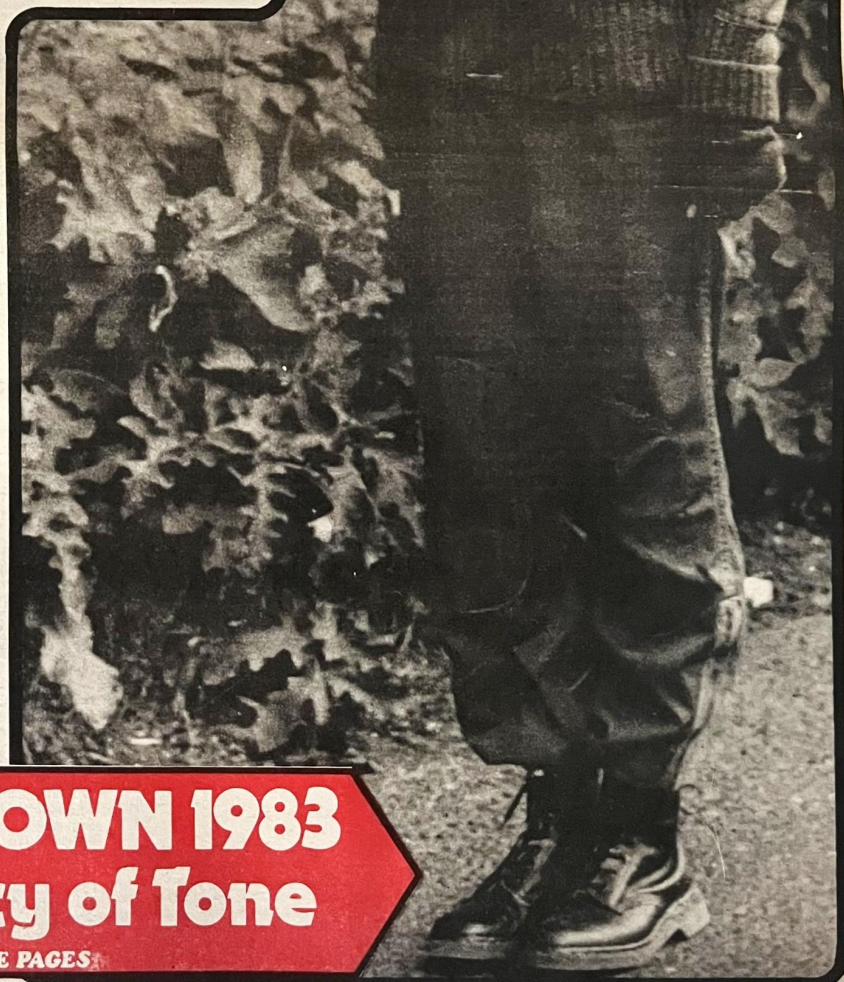
Sraith Nua Imt 5 Uimhir 25 Deardain Meitheamh 23 Thursday June 23rd 1983 (Britain 25p) Price 20p



Mortars in Crossmaglen *See page 2*



Belfast *See page 3*
by-election



BODENSTOWN 1983
The legacy of Tone

CENTRE PAGES

OPINION

EEC HAND-OUTS

THE ANNOUNCEMENT this week of £65 million to be made available by the EEC for Belfast projects is unlikely to be greeted with any enthusiasm by a people who have grown wise to the mesmeric financial miracles which are regularly unveiled in Brussels and Luxembourg.

No doubt the MEPs who have 'fought' for this latest patronising hand-out will attempt to make much of this between now and next year's elections, but what is the small print of the deal?

First of all, the figure is to be made available over a three-year period. So we are discussing less than £40 per head of the Belfast population per year.

And, in spite of the fact that Belfast housing conditions have been acknowledged by the EEC Commission to be the worst in Europe, this new grant comes with the proviso that not one penny of the money can be spent on housing.

Instead, the aid is to be spent on "community facilities, tourist amenities, land reclamation, industrial zones, harbour facilities, transport and environmental improvements." And even then, the EEC will only give 70% of the finance to approved projects, the other 30% must come from the British government.

The reality then will be that the British government will save 70% on spending already planned, which can be manipulated under the required headings and the EEC money will add nothing extra.

Apologists for the EEC and the British government proclaim that even though none of the money is to be spent on housing, it will nevertheless 'release other British funds for housing needs'.

Who is expected to believe this nonsense?

The British government has, quite blatantly, claimed money from the EEC's regional and social fund down the years on the basis that the North is one of the most deprived regions, but has certainly not spent it in the North.

So who is going to ensure that this money saved by the Brits will be spent on Belfast housing? Will it be direct-ruler James Prior, who earlier this month declared that he had never met people like those in the North for 'holding their hands out'?

Since EEC entry a decade ago, these amazing millions in grants, both north and south of the border, have been flashed before our eyes as the great benefits of entry and as an indisputable reason for remaining the lowliest member of this rich man's club.

But though these millions are totted up impressively, no price is put on the costs. The less easily calculated costs of massive unemployment and the destruction of Irish-based industries far outweigh these flashy figures.

Even in agriculture, there are only a very few who have grasped the widely promised crock of gold. Certainly, for the rest there has been no economic miracle.

The EEC operates by illusion, this latest one is nothing to get excited about.

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



Mortars in Crossmaglen

TEN mortar bombs were fired into the heavily-fortified British army/RUC base in Crossmaglen in a coolly executed IRA operation on Wednesday afternoon this week, June 22nd.

A dozen IRA Volunteers moved into the Lismore housing estate in the town, about 150 yards from the base, in several vehicles, which included a commandeered lorry from which the mortars were launched.

Volunteers went from door to door warning residents whose homes were in the line of fire to move out for their own safety. They also stopped traffic on the Dundalk road, which runs past the base, to ensure that there were no civilian casualties.

The mortar bombs were launched by a command wire signal some 200 yards from the lorry in Con-way Crescent.

When the attack happened, a Wessex helicopter was in the base dropping a container of supplies and as the mortars landed, the pilot lifted off, losing his load of sandbags and uniforms, damaging nearby rooftops.

In the panic afterwards, British soldiers briefly detained a number of people en route to a wedding, but it was three hours before they ventured near to the commandeered lorry and began preparations to examine it for any booby-traps. Meanwhile, all the IRA Volunteers involved in the operation were reported to have returned safely to base.

The British army later admitted to one Brit injured and damage to the base, some of which, to the perimeter battlements, was visible from outside.

HOAX BOMBS IN BELFAST

On the morning of Thursday, June 16th, in a carefully synchronised operation, Belfast Brigade IRA brought the commercial life of Belfast city centre to a halt with three vans containing hoax bombs placed at Shaftesbury Square, Wellington Place and College Street.

The vans had been commandeered earlier in the Beechmount area and, when in place, warnings were telephoned to a number of points.

Further disruption was caused by similar bomb warnings phoned to other shops and businesses inside the Belfast security zone, where, on the previous Monday, IRA incendiaries destroyed two major stores.

BALLYMENA OPERATION

On Saturday, June 18th, an IRA

operation planned as a dramatic preliminary to the visit of the British Queen Mother to the North this week — supposedly on a secret itinerary — went wrong when a proxy van bomb en route to Ballymena was intercepted several miles outside the town.

The night before, four armed IRA Volunteers took over a house off the Falls Road, where the occupier's van was loaded with 30lbs of gelignite and one 45 gallon drum of petrol. On Saturday, the owner was instructed to drive to Ballymena, accompanied by a second vehicle containing a number of armed Volunteers.

On the interception, the Volunteers successfully eluded the cordon thrown up and escaped.

The following Monday, June 20th, when the British Queen Mother was inspecting a Territorial Army parade in St Patrick's Barracks, Ballymena, several bomb warnings phoned to commercial premises in Ballymena town added to the chaos in the area. The IRA also revealed the location of the second operation, which had been abandoned in a loyalist housing estate in Ballymena.

The massive security surrounding the visit, and the consequences of the disruptive IRA actions, were contradictions enough of the attempted presentation of the visit as a normalisation exercise.

Sinn Fein confident of Belfast council seat

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

SINN FEIN's election campaign for next Wednesday's by-election in Area 'D' of West Belfast was launched on Thursday, June 16th, at a press conference held in Connolly House, the recently opened headquarters of West Belfast Sinn Fein. Sinn Fein candidate Alex Maskey expressed confidence that the party would take the council seat.

He reiterated Sinn Fein's determination to break the 'cosy relationship' between the SDLP and the unionist parties in the City Hall, and expose those parties' complacency towards the living conditions of the people of that area.

West Belfast MP Gerry Adams added that in 1985 Sinn Fein hoped to win most of the council seats in West Belfast, thus "giving representation to ordinary people for the first time."

Sinn Fein's confidence in this election is firmly rooted in the party's track record in the area, with its full-time advice centres, and the daily constituency work carried out by Sinn Fein's full-time staff, in particular on housing, and in stark contrast to the clientism practised by all the other parties. For that reason, say Sinn Fein, it is all the more important to return a Sinn Fein councillor on Wednesday, June 29th, so as to make in-roads into the services controlled by Belfast City Council, and make them more accountable to the people of the area.

Meanwhile, the SDLP candidate, who travelled all the way to West Belfast from



● Alex Maskey (centre) canvassing in West Belfast's Lenadoon estate

his South Belfast residence to launch his election campaign, showed typical opportunism by calling for the demolition of Moyard and the Divis Flats, and went on calling housing "the biggest problem in West Bel-

fast apart from the Provos" — a remark in the vein of the SDLP's bitter electioneering earlier this month, and which has already proved detrimental to them.

Former independent councillor, Gerry

Kelly, whose resignation from Belfast City Council precipitated next Wednesday's by-election has accused the SDLP of using smear tactics against Sinn Fein in their election campaign. In a statement, Kelly said:

"The allegations made in the Irish News by the SDLP's Brian Feeny that I was 'forced by the Provos at gunpoint' to resign my council seat are completely untrue. If he or his party want to run a smear campaign against Sinn Fein in the forthcoming Area 'D' by-election, they should look for other means rather than use me as a scapegoat."

"As part of the SDLP's smear campaign, Cormac Boomer alleged, in one of his typical gutter remarks, that the H-Block councillors 'danced a jig over the hunger-strikers' graves'. This allegation is indefensible and callous in the extreme. If Cormac Boomer and his colleagues had withdrawn from councils in the North during the 1981 hunger-strike, many deaths could possibly have been avoided during that period, both of hunger-strikers and of innocent people killed by plastic bullets."

"Feeny also falsely stated that we have done 'little or nothing' for our constituents since we were elected. Speaking for myself, I was involved in many housing issues, for example, the successful campaign for the demolition of the Turf Lodge Flats. I also helped many squatter families to obtain legal rentbooks they had been denied, and I also opposed the eviction of people in the Blacks Road and Lenadoon areas."

"Many people in the area could not doubt testify to the clashes I had with the DRSS on their behalf. With the great shortage of sports facilities in West Belfast, I was also very active in pressing for more playing pitches for GAA clubs and was involved in trying to get a leisure centre built for the Ballybone area of North Belfast."

"In conclusion, it appears to me that the SDLP are cynically making these allegations to further their own aims. It seems that in every SDLP election campaign the first casualty is always the truth."

SDLP hang on to lifebelt

THE SDLP, its credibility eroded by Sinn Fein's electoral gains, is more than ever in need of the lifebelt, represented by the New Ireland Forum, which will be having its second meeting on Thursday, June 23rd. That fact has become obvious, even to British direct-ruler Jim Prior, who has seen fit to make a few encouraging noises in the direction of the Forum.

On Monday, June 20th, Joe Hendron, the defeated SDLP candidate for West Belfast, hinted that the Forum had some 'trump cards' to play, due to the fact that the Free State was "operating along the border" and "spending vast amounts of money on this."

The suggestion that the Free State should stop propping up the border has been made repeatedly by Sinn Fein. That the SDLP now opportunistically chooses to make the same suggestion shows how desperate they are to use the Dublin meetings in order to regain

some credibility with Northern nationalists.

The Forum was described last week by West Belfast MP Gerry Adams as a 'political pantomime', and he accused the parties attending it of being afraid of the Sinn Fein position being outlined publicly, and of "only now trying to work out a blueprint for a united Ireland" when Sinn Fein is breaching down their necks.

PUBLICITY

The SDLP are not the only ones to engage in exercises for home consumption. At the Stutt-

gart EEC conference on Sunday, June 19th, Garret FitzGerald announced, after a half-hour long 'friendly and constructive' chat with Thatcher, that a summit meeting between British and Free State leaders would 'probably' take place before the end of the year.

Such meetings had been interrupted in 1982 when Charles Haughey, then Free State premier, had refused to back Thatcher's adventure in the Falklands/Malvinas.

It seems now that the British, concerned at the ever-increasing support for the Republican Movement, are ready to resume the so-called Anglo-Irish process, and with it the quest for a way to defeat the republican challenge while creating the illusion of political progress towards unity.

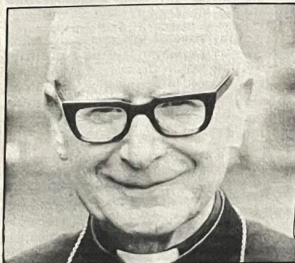


● JOE HENDRON



● GARRET FITZGERALD

Somersaults over Sinn Fein vote



● BISHOP CAHAL DALY

THE 102,701 votes Sinn Fein got in the recent British general elections are continuing to cause headaches among the political and church leaders who before the elections had joined in the campaign against Sinn Fein.

Last Sunday, June 19th, Free State premier Garret FitzGerald said that the increase in the Sinn Fein vote was caused by a high turn-out, Sinn Fein contesting twice as many seats as in the October 1982 elections,

and by 'massive personation'. FitzGerald, who likes to portray himself as a 'figures expert', carefully ignored the fact that the votes gained by Sinn Fein fighting in areas where it had not fielded candidates in October, really amount to less than 7,000 — which does not account for the 39,000 vote increase between last October and June 9th.

BISHOP

At the end of May, Bishop Cahal Daly had warned West Belfast voters that a vote for Sinn Fein would be seen as a 'vote for violence'. However, speaking on RTE radio last weekend, Bishop Daly blandly

observed that the Sinn Fein vote was "not a proxy vote for violence." Apparently privy to the innermost motivations of West Belfast voters, Daly said that they, "out of a sense of frustration and desperation", had "voted for change", that they did not "consciously approve of violence", but felt "the new party should be given a chance, and if it did not succeed, then it would no longer receive their support."

The bishop's verbal somersaults were criticised by the Sinn Fein elected representative for Mid-Ulster, Danny Morrison, who accused Daly of wanting to 'have it both ways'.

"If he is going to get involved in politics, he should stick to his guns," Danny Morrison concluded.

Longmile Road picket

COMPULSORY redundancies, unsatisfactory payments-in cases of voluntary redundancy and the denial of previously agreed wage increases have, say workers, led to strike action at Blackwood-Hodge, Longmile Road, Dublin, manufacturers of heavy construction machinery.

The strike by workers, members of AGEMOU, began on Friday last, June 17th, following attempts by management to enforce lay-offs as part of an overall restructuring of the company. AGEMOU had reluctantly tolerated voluntary redundancies since February last when 13 workers were laid off, but they have consistently opposed compulsion.

Compensation offered to workers being laid off was totally unacceptable to the union and both sides agreed to refer the matter to a Rights Commissioner. His decision in favour of the union's position was, in turn, rejected by the company, who then announced a further 21 redundancies with their original settlement offer.

A further redundancy was added recently to the list on the same day, say workers, that six new managerial cars were acquired by the company, including a Daimler and a Saab. This pampering of management is reflected in the fact that there are now 10 managers in a company of only 46 employees.

Despite this overmanning and overspending at the managerial level the company have, according to the union, reneged on a previously agreed wage settlement and are now attempting to impose an 18-month pay agreement beginning with a three-month pay pause from January last and offering an 11% increase paid in two parts to be operative until June 30th 1984.

Women's conference

'WOMEN and the National Question' was one of the best-attended workshops at a women's conference which took place last weekend in Belfast. Organised by women from many different groups, the conference was attended by about 250 women, and offered workshops on a wide range of topics, from sexuality to trade unionism.

The workshop on the national question saw a few attacks on Sinn Féin, as ludicrous as they were predictable: 'Sinn Féin could not be regarded as progressive given its stance on abortion'; 'Sinn Féin did not care about the Armagh POWs'; 'Last week the IRA planted a bomb which could have destroyed the Belfast Rape Crisis Centre'.

However, the Sinn Féin women present at the conference ensured that these statements, more akin to Sinn Féin bashing than constructive criticism, did not go unanswered.

The main difference between the participants remained, however, that between those traditional feminists who feel that 'party politics' are a 'threat to their identity', and those who see the irrelevance for many working-class women, especially in nationalist areas, of conferences such as this one, which apart from a few exceptions remained largely confined to the middle-class feminist ghetto.

A two-hour workshop could never bridge that gap, and no conclusion was reached other than that of keeping the lines of communication open, and the debate going.

Travellers defended

SEAN GALLAGHER, Sinn Féin spokesperson in Letterkenny, County Donegal, has urged both county and urban councillors to adopt an enlightened attitude in their dealings with travellers following the "hot-headed and inflammatory threat" to travellers in the town by local Urban Council chairperson, May McClintock.

"Her statement that she would lead townspeople to physically remove the travelling families is a blatant example of the refusal of local politicians to face up to the problems of travellers," he said.

"Possibilities for several head-stand sites in the town were mentioned, but a couple of years later not a single stopping place has been provided, in spite of the fact that it would cost the council practically nothing with the government grants available."

Calling for support for the work being done by the local resettlement committee he urged councillors to "work with them to help find a solution to the problem."

Six-county education cuts revealed

BY JANE PLUNKETT

EDUCATION in the six counties is to suffer further attacks by the British government according to a confidential document now in the hands of Sinn Féin.

Details of this document, which predicts redundancies and cut-backs, reveal the failure of representations by the Catholic Hierarchy, whose arguments on behalf of Catholic education have been largely ignored by the Tories, and will come as a blow to the Catholic community in general who will find further attacks on Irish culture by an unsympathetic administration.

Under pressure from the Catholic Hierarchy, the British government had, on November 26th last, decided to abandon plans to close the North's Catholic teacher-training colleges, St Mary's and St Joseph's, and agreed to a compromise plan to amalgamate the two colleges.

Representing the Northern bishops at these talks, Bishops Cahal Daly and Edward Daly commented at the time that they "expected the government to respond positively" to their demands that the proportion of the North's trainee teachers in the Catholic sector be increased to 40%, and rejected the notion that the Catholic element in teacher training be confined to the primary sector only.

Nicholas Scott, Education Minister, rejected this a month later, indicating that the intake of students to the amalgamated college would not be increased to the level the bishops had requested.

CONFIDENTIAL

This decision was confirmed last April in a confidential document informing the prin-

● St Mary's College: According to a confidential report in the hands of Sinn Féin, Catholic colleges are facing further cut-backs by the British government

cipals of St Mary's and St Joseph's of changes which would be implemented without consulting either staff or students.

Amongst the most alarming changes envisaged is the reduction of academic staff levels at the colleges to 60, over a two-year period, which could mean up to 30 redundancies, with ancillary workers also likely to be affected. The document states that "the college is therefore asked to plan accordingly. It will, of course, be necessary to identify the staff who may be involved in the first phase of any reductions within the next few months in view of the need to give one academic year's notice in cases where compulsory redundancies are involved."

Ignoring the Hierarchy, the British have decided that over 75% of new students next September will be trained as primary school teachers, "a significant shift in the balance of the colleges' provision towards the training of primary teachers."

Attacks on courses will limit the choices to students. Degree courses will only be allowed for courses with a minimum of 10 students. Nor will courses be offered, as in the past, to secondary teachers wishing to specialise in home economics, physical education, music

and art, further weakening the curriculum offered.

The Ulster Polytechnic, which will now cater for such specialisation, makes scant provision for Irish music and games, and the Higher Education Council of the GAA has already condemned the plan on the grounds that it will have an adverse effect on the future of national games. This effect may also extend to other cultural fields since cut-backs in courses such as Irish language teaching appear inevitable.

ATTACK

In an attack on the plans contained in this document, Gerry Brannigan, Sinn Féin spokesperson on education in Belfast, commented:

"The Irish bishops have, once again, been conned by the British. This document shows that the British government is trying to weaken the Catholic colleges in order to force their eventual shut-down."

"While Sinn Féin believes in a secular state with a non-sectarian education system, we have within the North a stated policy of defending the present Catholic school system which, however inadequate, has helped to keep alive our Irish national identity within the six-county colonial state."

A preserve of the rich

BY JACK MADDEN

IN A DAMNING indictment of 'inequality in education' in the twenty-six counties, the president of the Union of Students in Ireland, Joe Duffy, has pointed out that money rather than academic ability is, increasingly, the measure of educational opportunity and that the rising rate of 'dropping-out' amongst third-level students can, in many cases, be attributed to shortage of cash.

While Coalition ministers met at Barretstown Castle, County Kildare, to plan further cut-backs in public services the USI hosted a press conference to highlight the effects of such cut-backs in the education sector in general and introduced three 'human casualties' of this policy.

These three casualties included two second-level students, Ray Ronan and Anne Beahan, both currently sitting their Leaving Certificate examinations and both with hopes of proceeding to further education. The third, Alan English, a student in Kevin Street College of Technology, spoke of the effects the increases have on those already at college.

Coming from a single-parent family, Ray Ronan is the eldest of three children. He had thought of leaving school following his Inter-



● USI president Joe Duffy: 'Money rather than ability is, increasingly, the measure of educational opportunity'

mediate Certificate to take up an apprenticeship but had been attracted by the prospect of the course in engineering offered by Bolton Street College of Technology.

Now, however, the Coalition has sanctioned a rise in the number of honours needed to win a scholarship to Regional Technical Colleges and Vocational Education Committee colleges plus a massive fees increase. The engineering course he had hoped to take, which cost

£240 last year, has now been increased to £480.

His mother would, he said, quite readily do part-time work to help pay these fees but any earnings above £4 are deducted from her social welfare payments, which were already reduced following her son's 18th birthday. Unable to carry on to further education, Ray Ronan is now too old to begin an apprenticeship.

HONOURS

The number of honours needed

to win either a grant or scholarship to a third-level college bears no relationship to the qualifications needed to take a particular course. Anne Beahan of Bluebell, Dublin, had hopes of going to Maynooth College to study an arts course but she will need four honours to get a grant which will simply pay her fees and give her £160 spending money, hardly enough to pay her bus fares. Without the grant she would have to pay £720 fees every year. This is now the 'cheapest' university degree available.

For Alan English there is no question of getting a grant because of the level of his family income. The dependence on his family for financial support has, he says, affected both him and his brother who is also at college. Following the fees increases both will have to supplement their education with part-time jobs.

Increased fees, grants and scholarships which take no account of the rise in the cost of living, extra charges in examination and tuition fees, have driven the cost of third-level education to £90 per week for many students.

Free State government policy, in driving up the costs of the technical colleges, once regarded as the leveller in third-level education beyond the reach of ordinary people, is threatening to make the education system increasingly a preserve of the rich.

Charlemont rezoning opposed

BY JACK MADDEN

MORE THAN 200 families will be forced to continue living in the overcrowded Charlemont Street flats if Dublin Corporation accept a planning application to rezone a local derelict site from residential to commercial use. The application which was made by Albert Holdings Ltd has run into intense opposition from the local residents' association and a final decision from the corporation has been delayed until July 15th.

Albert Holdings Ltd includes amongst its directors Tony Hanahoe, a former Dublin footballer, and businessman Gerard O'Reilly, whose interests include a construction company, Cooneen Construction Ltd. The shares of Albert Holdings Ltd are held by a company called Clandale Ltd which has an address in the Isle of Man, an address commonly used for the purpose of tax avoidance.

The entire Charlemont Street site was offered for sale in 1978, according to Willie Ormonde of the local community association. The corporation let the opportunity pass



● The derelict site in Dublin's Charlemont area which is badly needed for houses not offices

allowing Albert Holdings to acquire the prime sites. Despite this the area was still zoned for residential, recreational and some commercial use by Dublin County Council

as recently as 1980 in the Development Plan.

Willie Ormonde points out that there is a desperate need for housing in the area. In

Charlemont Street, families with as many as eight children are forced to live in two-bedroomed flats. Adolescent brothers and sisters are forced to share bedrooms, contrary to the corporation's own standards.

Indeed, a small number of houses have already been built on the site, at Peter's Place, but, argues Willie Ormonde, these and any other houses which may be built in the area in the future will be confined and dwarfed if the proposed development goes ahead. He points to the high-rise office blocks on Adelaide Road, which borders the site, and on the nearby Grand Parade.

"Many of these offices lie empty, so how can they justify building more in the same area?" asks Ormonde.

In arguing against rezoning, the local community association has already won widespread support from local representatives, with the exception of Fergus O'Brien, Fine Gael minister for state, who "didn't even bother replying to our letters," says Willie Ormonde.

"Our case is that the proposed rezoning contravenes the existing plan and does nothing for either the overcrowded families in the flats or for the old people whose present homes are vulnerable to vandalism."

Anger at Rasharkin neglect

BY JANE PLUNKETT

THE DECAYING Rockview Crescent estate in the North Antrim village of Rasharkin is just one example of the appalling housing conditions which many nationalists living in rural areas of the North are forced to endure.

The 28 families in the estate still live in aluminium prefabricated bungalows built as a 'temporary' expedient 33 years ago. In recent years, the small estate, known locally as 'Tintown', has deteriorated rapidly. Virtually all the houses suffer badly from damp, which seeps through joints in the outside walls and beneath badly fitting windows. In some houses, the problem is made worse by badly corroded metal roofs. Black mould makes food cupboards unusable, and even in dry weather, in many houses the stench of damp is unmistakable.

To make matters worse, because of their thin aluminium construction, the prefabs are excessively hot in summer and like iceboxes in winter.

Residents have also had numerous worrying problems with the electric wiring, which has never been renewed. Windows, doors and doorhandles

hang loose, and a host of minor repairs have not been carried out, despite repeated promises from the Housing Executive.

CORRODED

The bungalow occupied by 24-year-old Margaret O'Boyle, her sister and two brothers is no worse than many others. The roof has corroded and a hole under the eaves allows damp, and birds, to enter the roof-space. The wallpaper in the living room is peeling and stained with damp. Margaret complains that the small kitchen range, like many others in Tintown, is extremely smoky. The Housing Executive has failed to install a new one.

Margaret's younger sister, Clare, suffers badly from asthma and has recently had to move out of the house. Chest ailments are common on the estate.

Margaret, like many other people in this close-knit com-



● Bridie Boyle (left) and Margaret O'Boyle in Margaret's home

munity, complains that the Housing Executive is indifferent to their plight:

"It's always the same. Whenever you phone the Executive they say they will send someone out, but they never come."

Three years ago, immersion heaters were installed in the house, and in several others, but Executive workmen never

returned to connect them.

For over three decades the housing authorities have ignored the major structural problems and carried out only minor cosmetic improvements. Five years ago the prefabs were spray-painted, for the first time ever. Last July, the Executive started a £20,000 scheme to erect new wooden board fencing around

the decaying dwellings.

A year earlier, the Housing Executive had unsuccessfully attempted to wash its hands of the problem by offering to sell the prefabs to tenants for some £2,500 each.

BITTER

Residents are understandably bitter at the treatment they have received over the years. Bridie Boyle, an aunt of Margaret's who also lives on the estate, says:

"My firm opinion is that we've been neglected because it's a Catholic housing estate. The Housing Executive just won't do anything for the people here in Tintown."

The chronic local housing shortage has trapped many people in Tintown for decades. Mrs Bernie Dunstun, who lives in a small three-bedroom bungalow with her husband and five teenage children, has unsuccessfully sought a transfer for over 20 years. The Executive is at last building new houses but she has no hopes of being allocated one. According to Bernie:

"They don't want the people out of here because nobody will come into these

places to live. And the others of a different religion get the first choice of houses."

COMPLAINTS

Local residents recently contacted Sinn Féin's North Antrim constituency representative, Pearse McMahon, who on May 26th presented Housing Executive officials with a lengthy dossier of residents' complaints. McMahon says:

"The officials' response was simply to make derogatory remarks about the way the people keep their houses. Yet it is because of years of neglect, by loyalist politicians and the Housing Executive alike, that the houses are not worth living in. And the Housing Executive is prepared to let the situation continue so long as they remain unchallenged."

Recognising this, Tintown residents are now considering forming a housing action committee to press their case for major renovations, or rehousing on the same site.

Bridie Boyle sums up the residents' anger.

"The houses need a real overhaul and to be bricked, round and re-roofed. And if that's not done, then abandon them and build houses for people and leave these for the cattle, pigs and sheep that should be in them."

'GROSS DECEIT' IN COOKSTOWN

BY SEAMUS BOYLE

DANNY MORRISON, Sinn Féin elected representative for Mid-Ulster, has accused the Housing Executive of gross deceit following their failure to fulfill a promise, which they made two months ago, to deal with dampness in a flat in Cookstown, County Tyrone.

The Lagan family's flat in Greenvale Drive is beset by extreme dampness which has destroyed baby clothes, sheets and carpets. One bedroom has had to be abandoned and the hall is an unhealthy black mass of fungus.

Young mother Catherine Lagan is understandably anxious about the health risks these conditions pose, particularly her two-year-old son, Anthony John, but has complained repeatedly to the Housing Executive without success.

One official from the regional office at Omagh, ignoring the clear evidence of

dampness, which is possibly caused by a structural fault, described the flat as "the worst case of condensation" he had ever seen. Continuing this attempt to shift the blame for the problem onto Catherine Lagan, Housing Executive officials advised her to change her cooking habits, and to wash down the walls and redecorate, which she has already done a number of times.

Faced with this indifference from the Executive officials, last February Catherine contacted Sinn Féin's Danny Morrison, who says he was given the "run-around" for some time between different

departments of the Executive.

At last, on April 20th, Morrison was promised by Herbie Coulter, of the Technical Services department in Omagh, that the Housing Executive would carry out a pilot scheme on the flat.

The Executive would, Coulter said, put dry lining and plasterboard over the walls, and would also consider installing a ventilator shaft in the kitchen. All this would be done within three weeks.

Now, two months later, the Executive have not even started the promised work, and the Lagan family are still forced to exist in appalling conditions. Morrison says:

"It appears that all they were doing was buying time and fobbing me off. It is ridiculous that after five months of lobbying from a public representative, the Executive has not only not carried out its work but has also acted deceitfully by giving me a commitment which they then ignored."



● Excessive dampness plagues the flat of Catherine Lagan and her two-year-old son, Anthony John

BODENSTOWN

BY JACK MADDEN

BRILLIANT SUNSHINE and the euphoria generated by the recent electoral successes of Sinn Féin in the six counties, combined to make this year's Wolfe Tone commemoration parade, from Sallins to Bodens-town Churchyard in County Kildare, a huge success.

Those who arrived early vied for the best positions along the grassy slopes of the Grand Canal. The intense heat and the good-humoured atmosphere obviously got the better of a number of people who, to the amazement of onlookers, dived into the stagnant water of the canal to swim.

As we lay sunning ourselves the bands warmed up around us, a cacophony of subversion you might say. In the field, crowds gathered to hear and watch the excellent new Derry bands in particular. Their battle cries and energetic performance lasted throughout the afternoon, to the delight of onlookers.

Various political groupings piled their publications on the crowds, street traders did a roaring business and a republican crafts stall offered a wide range of memorabilia for sale. All these, and more, added to the carnival atmosphere of the occasion.

Always a family occasion, Bodenstown highlights the continuity of the liberation struggle. Young children, their parents (and in some cases grandparents) demonstrated the rejuvenation essential to a revolutionary organisation. Two elderly men were heard to marvel at the number of young people present, commenting that it

was a welcome change from former days when few young people were to be seen at Sallins.

COLOUR PARTY

Another welcome development in recent years has been the inclusion of women Volunteers in the colour party dressed in the same style battle fatigues as their male comrades. There were three women included in this year's colour party of 25 which was greeted with deafening applause by the crowds who lined the route.

They were followed by 18 members of Cumann na mBan and up to 100 members of Na Fianna Éireann from Dublin, Fermanagh, Belfast, Cork, Limerick, Shannon and even two representatives from San Francisco.

Besides the Derry bands there were others from as far away as Glasgow (ever-welcome participants in republican parades). There were, in fact, 16 bands in all inter-

persed through the long line of marchers. A local told me that it contrasted with the previous week's Workers' Party parade which featured only three bands, a couple of hundred people, and was, she added, quite lifeless.

LOCAL SUPPORT

As the thousands of marchers, and the bands, plodded the few miles to Bodenstown graveyard they were warmly received by the local population some of whom had the foresight and decency to provide water for passers-by.

At Tone's graveside the ceremony was chaired by Joe Cahill, joint-secretary of Sinn Féin. Amongst the wreaths laid were those on behalf of the Republican Movement by Gearoid MacCartaigh, veteran republican from Cork, on behalf of Irish Northern Aid (Noraid) by Pat O'Connell, and Zachary Cullen for Dublin Sinn Féin.

In a pointed reminder of the continuity of the liberation struggle a bouquet was laid by Jimmy Andrews, a veteran republican from Rathfarnham in Dublin who has attended every Bodenstown commemoration since

1918!

The American support at Bodenstown included representatives from Clan na nGael in Philadelphia and from Noraid. Pat O'Connell was warmly applauded when, in addressing the crowd, he reminded them of the St Patrick's Day triumph in New York and pledged continued support and work "until Ireland is rid of British rule once and for all."

Sean Fitzpatrick spoke on behalf of the National Graves Association, the organisation responsible for maintaining our national monuments. He appealed for continued support for this work.

There was an electric atmosphere as Joe Cahill rose to introduce the main speaker of the day, Gerry Adams, vice-president of Sinn Féin and recently-elected MP for West Belfast. Thunderous applause greeted him as he ironically addressed the assembly as "fellow gunner and gunwomen" and his message pointed towards a revitalisation of Sinn Féin throughout Ireland.

An upsurge in morale and enthusiasm was the most welcome feature of this year's commemoration and given the realisation that hard work will produce results, we can expect next year's Wolfe Tone commemoration to follow further electoral success, this time in the Free State local government elections.



The legacy of To

Táimid tagtha go dtí "an áit is naofa in Éirinn" — mar a thug an Píarsach uirthi — uagh Wolfe Tone, Athair an Phoblachtachais in Éirinn. B'e ceann de na rudaí ba thábhachtaí mar gheall ar Tone, mar a dúirt Seamas Ó Conghaile, nach ndearna sé aithris ar éinne.

Ard-smaointeoir agus fear chun gnímh a bhí ann ag an am goceanna. Ghlac sé chuige féin, agus ghlac na hÉireannaigh Aontaithe mar eagraíocht leis na smaointe agus na tuairimí polaitiúla ba fuide chun cinn lena linn. Saoirse, Ionannas agus Braithreachas.

Agus rinne sé gníomh dá réir, threoraigh sé, throid sé agus sé deire fuair sé bás ar son mhuintir na hÉireann. Iníod gheibheann an glúin seo inspioráid óna bheatha, óna fobairt agus óna smaointe. Gura fada a mairfidh spiorad Tone inár measc.

IN May 1795 Tone and his Belfast friends of the United Irishmen met at MacArt's Fort on the summit of Cave Hill. Most of the inner circle of that revolutionary movement were present and they pledged themselves never to desist in their efforts until they had subverted the authority of England over our country and asserted their independence.

Today, 188 years later, we are gathered here at Tone's grave to renew ourselves in our republican faith and to pledge ourselves, like those on Cave Hill, never to desist in our efforts until we have subverted the authority of England over our country and asserted our independence. That is our message which goes from Bodenstown graveyard to the British government today. We unapologetically and without reservation deny the right of the British parliament to make laws for Ireland. We assert that the British government has no rights to Ireland or rights in Ireland. We declare that our independence must be had at all hazards and we defend the right of Irish people to engage in armed struggle in pursuance of that independence and in resistance to the British presence in our country.

Wolfe Tone was the first to preach revolution in Ireland. He was not and will not be the last. He articulated the necessity of breaking the British connection, the right of our people to be free, the need for unity of Catholic, Protestant and Dissenter — the gospel of anti-sectarianism and ir-

ish separatism. He was a radical and a revolutionary. His work remains unfinished and his theories have yet to be implemented and thus it is important, and customary, for us to examine how far along the road we have travelled since last we assembled here at Bodenstown.

Tone's philosophy and the evolution of republicanism since his time, and this cannot be stressed enough, is only relevant to Ireland today insofar as we can make it so. Unless we make republicanism a living, viable philosophy capable of meeting the needs of our people, our struggle and our country, republicanism and the legacy of Wolfe Tone are no more than the academic high-minded visions of yesterday or yesterday. While the fundamental tenets of republicanism will always remain valid, we have a duty to interpret and to develop our republicanism so that it meets today's political conditions and so that it becomes a coherent social and political philosophy.

There is no such thing as republican ideology. We need a living political ideology, based firmly on republican principles and always open to refinement, re-appraisal and self-criticism. We need to make our politics the politics of ordinary people.

WE are faced with many obstacles in our endeavours to do this. The vastly different conditions which exist in both partitioned parts of this island — the

direct effects of partition itself — and the uneven development and politicisation of our own movement. All these elements, and many more, are hurdles which we have to surmount. Let us, as in Tone's day, take our example from the people of the North — and I suggest this not from any sense of parochial prejudice but because that is where our successes have been most marked.

Sinn Féin now commands 42% electoral support amongst nationalist voters and the gains we made last October have been increased dramatically by a massive 60% in the recent elections. We fought both these election campaigns under the worst possible conditions. Our workers and candidates were harassed on a daily basis by the RUC and the British army, a number of us were arrested, our stand in the election was condemned by the British and Irish establishments, by sections of the Catholic Hierarchy, by all the Protestant churches and by the SDLP. The unionist parties organised electoral pacts against us, the Alliance Party decided not to contest certain seats in order to maximise the anti-Sinn Féin vote, our policies were misrepresented and the electorate was subject to moral pressures and condemnations unprecedented since the Civil War. It was Sinn Féin versus everyone else.

Despite this we set as our

primary tactical objective the winning of 90,000 votes. On June 9th we secured 102,701 votes. I would like on your behalf to congratulate all our election workers on their victory and I would like to thank and congratulate each and every one of them 102,701 votes. Rinne siad obair mhaith leis na vótaí. Go raibh míle maith againn.

As soon as the election results became clear, everything else became obscure. Before June 9th we were told that a vote for Sinn Féin would be a vote for the IRA and our opponents tried vainly to explain away our success.

We also had the ridiculous spectacle of establishment figures lining up to tell us that they won't talk to me. Peter Barry played it really safe. He ensured that I, or any other member of Sinn Féin, couldn't talk back to him by using RTE with its notorious Section 31 as his medium. Nobody thought of asking us whether we were interested in talking to Garrett FitzGerald, James Prior or Peter Barry. I am sure you people would have a lot to say on that subject. Meanwhile, Garrett FitzGerald is today talking to that arch-terrorist Margaret Thatcher. Hypocrisy personified!

ALL these contradictions, and others besides, have come clearly into focus because Sinn Féin have won

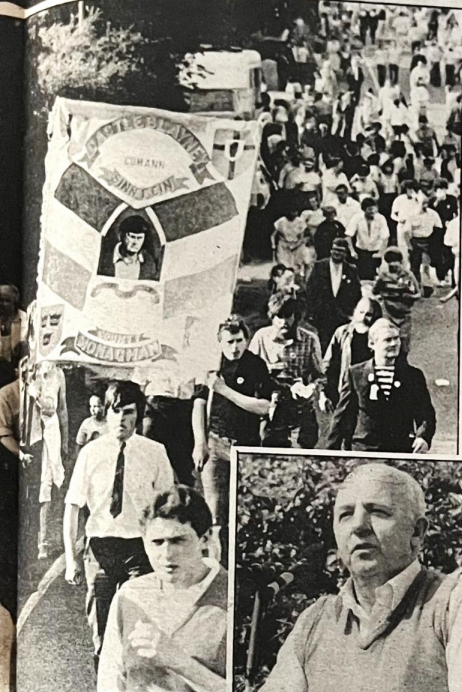
the leadership of the anti-imperialist people in the occupied six counties, because we have established a republican veto and because we have restricted the ability of the SDLP leadership to sell out those they purported to represent in the past. We have started on the road to building a strong, dynamic political movement throughout the six counties and we will continue to make gains and to increase our vote as this development, the broadening of our struggle and the consolidation of our gains, proceeds.

We stood on a radical republican platform, in the socialist republican tradition of Connolly and Pearse. We gave people an alternative and they responded to us. Our vote will not go away and it cannot be explained away. We are winning and we will be victorious in driving the British out of Ireland and achieving what all others lack the courage to do.

There is, of course, another front to the struggle in the six counties, and this is conducted by the men and women Volunteers of the IRA. Sinn Féin defends, not through any sense of bravado or fixation with physical force but through necessity, the right of the IRA to engage in armed resistance to the British presence. We are unapologetic in this defence. Irish people have the right to engage in armed resistance to the British presence.

© Gerry Adams: "The IRA needs a mandate for its armed struggle. It derives its mandate from the people."

1983



● (Left) Colourful Sinn Féin banners, brilliant sunshine and the Westminster election results made for a great day for republicans at Bodensown. (Centre) Joe Cahill who chaired the commemoration. (Above) The IRA colour party salutes the memory of Wolfe Tone

one



signatories of the 1916 Proclamation and all those other Irishmen and women who took the painful but correct position that the British government, scornful of the force of argument will listen only to the argument of force.

There are those who tell us that the British government will not be moved by armed struggle. The history of Ireland and of British colonial involvement throughout the world tells us that they will not be moved by anything else.

It is fitting, and I am glad of the opportunity therefore, to pay tribute to the freedom fighters of the IRA. By their determination and courage the men and women Volunteers of Oglagh na hÉirinn have won the admiration of progressive nationalists throughout Ireland and of freedom-loving people throughout the world.

They have assured us, by their tenacity and resilience, that they, and thus we, can never be defeated and that for as long as the British government maintains its presence in our country they will be faced by the armed resistance. The IRA is the assertion and the guarantee that our will as a people to be free is stronger than the will of any British government to enslave us.

THE question of the IRA and the armed struggle is one used, especially in the twenty-six counties by the establishment here, to obscure the Dublin government's collaborationist role. All of

the Dublin parties paint a horrific picture of IRA people scrambling into the Free State to create mayhem here. The people of the twenty-six counties need no reminding that the Leinster House politicians are creating more mayhem than the IRA ever could, and the politicians themselves know full well, as does any IRA watcher, that armed action against Free State forces and institutions is forbidden by the IRA.

Armed struggle, a necessary and morally correct form of resistance in the six counties against a government whose presence is rejected by the vast majority of Irish people, has no part to play in the development of our republican struggle within the twenty-six counties. The twenty-six counties and a development of consciousness among our people here is of colossal importance in the task of building a strong thirty-two county wide political movement — capable of linking the local struggles of the socially deprived, alienated young people, unemployed, small farmers, women and Gaelscoil with the national struggle. The advances made in the six counties need to be matched by a parallel development in the twenty-six counties.

Republicans know the British government cannot exist in Ireland without Dublin collaboration and that the Dublin government has never been found lacking in this regard, but we have al-

so to realise that ordinary people, understandably enough, accept Free State institutions as legitimate.

To ignore this reality is to blinker republican politics, to undermine the development of our struggle and is to have a basic flaw in our analysis. It has to be stressed that the people of the six counties cannot secure Irish independence and the conditions for our Irish republic on their own. A firm foothold and a relevant organisation in Southern politics is vital. We must apply ourselves to that objective.

We know, as Tone declared, that:

"We have no national government: we are ruled by Englishmen and the servants of Englishmen, whose object is the interest of another country, whose instrument is corruption and whose strength is the weakness of Ireland."

LEINSTER House, with its patronage, double standards and corruption has become the Tammany Hall of what passes for Irish politics. As unemployment figures increase and the dole queues lengthen, as small farmers and consumers, the old and socially deprived, bear the brunt of Dublin Thatcherite monetarist policies, the Dublin parties, by way of temporary diversion from the effects of their misgovernment, are engaged in the farcical Dublin Forum.

They are not fooling anyone —

their Forum was of little assistance to the SDLP during the election — and as the disenchantment felt by alienated sections of our people towards the three main parties in the twenty-six counties increases we must structure our organisation, our struggle and our policies in order to give proper leadership. With all this in mind, the drawing up of a political strategy for the twenty-six counties must become the primary short-term objective facing republicans.

In keeping with what I have stated earlier, we have a duty to interpret and to develop our republicanism so that it meets today's political conditions, and we need a firm foothold and a strong organisational drive to achieve this. The West Briton, Shoneman and pro-British ethos which has been developed by the Dublin establishment must be reversed and the only organisation capable of doing this, if it applies itself, is our organisation.

We can be assured that if Wolfe Tone were alive today he would stand firmly with us — and leader-writers of the *Irish Times* and other revisionists will be horrified by this prospect — but we can be assured also that he would stay with us only for as long as we applied ourselves intelligently to the task before us. Wolfe Tone if he were alive today would be vilified as he was in his time, as an upstart, a subversive and a 1798 equivalent of a gunman. He would even, if he were alive today, be banned from RTE. But he would also, and this is his message to us, be formulating policies, strategies and revolutionary tactics to com-

bat the national, social and economic evils which beset our people.

THE IRA have told us, by their actions and their statements, that the war against the British occupation will go on.

Let us declare, by our actions and by our application to the work before us, that the political struggle going so well in the six counties, will spread to the twenty-six counties in a way which transcends partition and unites us all in one powerful united political thrust forward. By developing realistic policies and strategies, by hard work, because there are no short-cuts, and by principled leadership at all levels we will prove ourselves worthy of the legacy of Theobald Wolfe Tone. To do anything less is to shirk our duty and our responsibility.

Let us go forward therefore from here today mindful of the sacrifices of our political prisoners and their families, especially the prisoners in England, mindful of the sacrifices of generations, mindful of the ongoing sacrifices made on a daily basis by all our activists and supporters and mindful also, and most importantly, of the opportunities available to us. Let us go from here rededicated in our republican faith.

There is work to be done. Let us do it.

Le sin, beidh an bua againn. Le sin, mar a dúirt na fir pluide agus mná. Ard Mhaca, Tiocfaidh ár lá.

Death of Dan Turley



● DAN TURLEY
veteran republican and ex-Long Kesh
internee

THE FUNERAL of veteran Belfast republican Dan Turley took place on Saturday, June 11th, from St Agnes's Church in Andersonstown to Milltown Cemetery.

Dan was a member of the Republican Movement from early boyhood right up to the time of his death. Like many of his generation he was no stranger to prison life, his last term being served as an internee in Long Kesh in the early '70s.

On his release he returned once again to offer his services to the Republican Movement, a service which only ended with his death on Thursday, June 9th. When he was alive Dan always maintained that the only reward a republican was entitled to was a Tricolour draped over their coffin.

And so it was, his Tricolour-draped coffin was borne to Milltown Cemetery flanked by a guard of honour.

May the soil of the land he loved rest lightly on him and on all the republicans dead. The Republican Movement extends its deepest sympathy to his sorrowing family and friends.

Go nóána Dia trócaire ar a anam.

Australian Aid

AT A conference in Melbourne, Australia, on June 11th and 12th, all existing republican support organisations were dissolved and re-formed into a new organisation called Australian Aid for Ireland.

Nineteen groups, including various Sinn Féin cumainn, branches of Green Cross, H-Block/Armagh committees and Irish support groups formally dissolved themselves at the two-day conference which was taken up with debate on a strategy for the new organisation.

A constitution was adopted and a national executive elected, the members of which are: president: Les Lambert; vice-president: Barry Hughes; secretary: Anne-Marie Whittaker; and PRO: Jack Magee.

Branches of Australian Aid for Ireland, with representation on the executive, are expected to be formed over the next few months.

In a message to the Sinn Féin and comhairle, the new organisation said:

"On behalf of all the supporters of the Republican Movement in Australia, we look forward to working together in a comradely and constructive spirit to advance the cause of the Republican Movement and hasten the long-sought freedom of Ireland."

Sinn Féin Youth

NORTH BELFAST Sinn Féin, in recognition of the problems facing our youth and in keeping with their election pledge, have set up a youth department. Anyone who wishes to join or obtain more information about Sinn Féin Youth should contact their local advice centre.

There has also been a new Sinn Féin youth group set up in the Twinbrook area of West Belfast. Anyone interested in joining should contact any local cumann member or AP/RN seller.

PINOCHET REGIME TOTTERS

BY SEAN HALPENNY

JUST THREE years after they were elected to power in Chile, the socialist government, led by President Salvador Allende, was overthrown in a military coup and power was seized by General Pinochet on September 11th 1973. After the coup over 30,000 workers, trade unionists and political militants were massacred, many more imprisoned and others driven into exile.

A decade later, a massive wave of unrest has swept across Chile, the product of Pinochet's monetarist policies, which have caused high unemployment, a rapid decline in the standard of living (wages dropping 40% since 1981), and industrial decline. The demonstrations have been held despite a referendum organised by Pinochet in 1980 proposing to extend his rule until 1997 in which he claimed 70% support. Massive protests had been held against the proposals which were also opposed by the Christian Democratic Party, which had supported the coup.

Rather than face another 14 years of rule by Pinochet, the trade unions have taken to the streets. The Copper Miners' Federation (CTC) called a day of action on May 11th, during which two workers died and 100 were injured in violent clashes with the police and army. Disturbances continued the following day when the Pinochet regime began rounding up workers and herding them into football stadiums. The leaders of CTC were arrested and charged with violating state security.

The Workers' National Command (CNT), the trade union congress,

reacted by calling a strike on June 14th, during which police killed four, wounded many others and arrested 1,300 people including CTC president Rodolfo Seguel. Troops moved in to take control of the major copper mines and smelters.

As many as 2,000 mineworkers were sacked following another strike on June 17th. Acting in tandem with the mine-owners, Pinochet ordered the arrest of Hugo Estivalde, interim president of the CTC.

A general strike is now being planned by the CNT against the junta, due to take place this week. Faced with massive resistance from both the working-class and middle-class, the Pinochet regime is desperate to stop the strike. They have offered an amnesty to more than 125 exiled political leaders (there are 50,000 Chileans in exile).

This crisis demonstrates the political instability inherent in both Central and South American states. Both Argentina and Uruguay are experiencing similar unrest, while liberation forces in El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua have shown effective opposition to US imperialism. Their example gives courage to oppressed people such as those in Chile.



● Church and state: Archbishop Fresno, Catholic archbishop of La Serena, with the fascist dictator Pinochet



● Salvador Allende (left, wearing glasses and helmet) with supporters as right-wingers attack the presidential palace in a military coup

STAD ANOIS!

LE TOMÁS Ó SÉ

LÁ i ndiaidh lae tá rialtas Stait Aontaithe Mheiriceá ag méidiú a bhfórsaí i Meiriceá Láir. Tá sé mar aidhm acu rialtas Nicaraagua a bhriseadh agus na rialtais éagsula sa cheantar atá fábharchad do Stait Aontaithe Mheiriceá a choimeád i gcuimhach.

Tá fonn ar Ronald Reagan agus a chomhairleoirí dul chun chogaidh chun Meiriceá Láir a choimeád faoina smacht. Chosain an Seanadóir Barry Goldwater usáid aer fhórsa agus fórsaí airm SAM i Meiriceá Láir agus fiú mhol sé gabháil Cúba. 'Sé Goldwater an cathaíleach ar Choiste Faisnéise an tSeanaid.

Mhol an Ghinearál Wallace Nutting atá i gceannas ar Cheannas an Deiscirt, le ceanncheathrú i bPanama gur chóir a bheith ullamh i bhfad níos mó airgid agus aigdiúirí a dásid. Tá an CIA i mbun gnímh chomh maith agus tá siad ag rá anois go mbeidh an rialtas i Nicaraagua briste roimh deireadh na bliana.

TREORÚ

Cheana féin tá dílte na Stait Aontaithe briste ag Rialtas Rialtas. Tá na 'comhairleoirí' i El Salvador atá in airm is a bheith ag traenáil airm El Salvador ag glacadh páirt sa



● Trúpaí an rialtais in El Salvador tar éis aráidbhaile a ghabháil

chogadh féin i gcoinne órdaithe an tSeanaid i Meiriceá. Tá siad ag treorú an cogadha. Bíonn cruinníú gach lá ag oifigigh Meiriceánacha agus oifigigh as airm El Salvador chun ag cogadh a phlé agus ordaithe míleata a shocrú.

Tá an cogadh seo ag tárlú i gcoinne toil an phobail sna Stait Aontaithe féin. Tá bochtaineas agus dífhóstaíocht forleathan sna Stait Aontaithe. Tá dreamanna ag teacht le chéile chun a chur i gcoinne an Vietnam nua.

Tá poiblíocht á dhéanamh ag na grúpaí seo i gcoinne an cogadha agus tá sé beartaithe acu agóid mhór a dhéanamh i Washington ar an dara lá d'úil. Tá mórchuid daoine agus grúpaí ag tabhairt tacaíocht don agóid.

Béidh gach son duine ag súil go n-éireoidh leo mar ní bheidh ceart le fáil ag pobal Meiriceá Láir go dtí go mbeidh deireadh le cur isteach Stait Aontaithe Mheiriceá sa cheantar. Saoirse do Mheiriceá Láir

BURKE'S AT THE BACK

By Kevin Burke

HAVING won his much-coveted Westminster seat, and accompanying extra salary, John Hume has so far appeared rather reluctant to take it up and 'drag the Irish question onto the floor of the House'.

When he does take the seat, he will first proclaim the following:

"I, John Hume, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, her heirs and successors according to law. So help me God."

Which rather takes the edge off his boasts during the election that he would be a true Irish rebel once he got to London.

★ ★ ★

Whoever said that Irish banks are mean, tight-fisted and only concerned with profits? Well-founded reports suggest quite the opposite in fact.

Michael Murphy, due to resign (under pressure) next month from his directorship of Allied Irish Banks, will be receiving a golden handshake of £4 million.

Now that's generous enough, isn't it?

★ ★ ★

Irish-American Zachary Cullen arrived in Dublin last Friday for the Bodestown commemoration and made his way to the Dublin Sinn Féin premises where he asked if there was anything he could do.

Christy Burke (no relation), resident community worker, sent him across the road to the pub for a bucket of ice - don't ask me why.

On the way back, with ice in bucket, Cullen was swooped on by alert Special Branchmen who bore him away, with his burden, to the Bridewell.

There he was photographed, finger-printed and had his passport checked before being ferried back. He arrived in the Sinn Féin building with ice still frozen in the bucket.

I am not sure whether it was the frosty reception he received in the Bridewell, or the fact that he kept his cool throughout the incident, but somewhere in the story there is a lesson for us all.

★ ★ ★

Appearing at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court in London this Thursday are six men, including two high-ranking British army officers, accused of stealing blood, provided by British soldiers for the National Health Service, and selling it to a Danish insulin laboratory.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ernest Parry and Lieutenant-Colonel Michael Thomas are both attached

A Loyal subject

to the British army blood supply depot at Alder shot.

★ ★ ★

The Free State government's decision to take Bord Fáilte and Aer Lingus out of the New York St Patrick's Day parade, because Michael Flannery was chief marshal, has been a costly one.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians' president in the United States, Joseph Roche, announced some weeks ago that the 1984 convention of his organisation was being switched from its planned Galway venue back to the US, because of the Free State snub to Irish-Americans.

This was dismissed by the Free State government who predicted that the AOH executive

would vote against Roche's announcement and, right up to the eve of last weekend's executive meeting in New York, confidently claimed that the Galway venue was safe.

But the executive confirmed the switch from Galway and the loss in revenue to the area is now being put at over two million dollars.

★ ★ ★

This week all eyes have been on Poland where a central figure, elected by a very select unelected few, wields enormous power over literally millions of people who have no democratic voice in the organisation to which they are expected to give allegiance...

But that's enough about the Pope, what about General Jaruzelski?

NOTES
BY CORMAC



REMEMBERING THE PAST- RIC INTELLIGENCE

BY PETER O'ROURKE

IN EARLY 1919, at the beginning of the Tan War, the most important tool of British oppression in Ireland was undoubtedly the Royal Irish Constabulary.

An armed paramilitary force, the RIC, with an estimated strength of about 12,000 members, was regarded by many as the real army of occupation.

Policing every town in Ireland and living within the communities they policed, the intimate knowledge gained about local inhabitants enabled them to identify practically every member of the Republican Movement.

EYES AND EARS

In June 1919, the RIC became the prime target of the IRA, not, as is so often claimed, that their barracks were the most convenient symbol of British imperialism in Ireland, but because the occupants were literally the eyes and ears of the Dublin Castle regime and could provide accurate intelligence on every IRA unit in the country.

At around this time Michael Collins,

in addition to his post as Minister of Finance, was appointed as director of the IRA's newly-formed intelligence department.

The department consisted of two branches, intelligence and counter-intelligence. The former consisted of active IRA officers throughout the country who watched and reported on British forces from the outside, and the latter mainly of supporters holding key positions in the British administration.

EXECUTIONS

The systematic execution of members of the RIC and detectives of the Dublin Metropolitan Police (as well as British spies and informers) began on June 23rd 1919 when RIC District Inspector Michael Hunt was shot dead in broad daylight in Thurles Market Square, County Tipperary.

By December 1919, 16 RIC men



● The RIC, the eyes and ears of the British occupation forces

had been executed, including a number of prominent members of the infamous 'G' Division of the Dublin Metropolitan Police.

So successful were IRA operations against RIC barracks and patrols that

by the summer of 1920 the RIC had been completely withdrawn into the larger towns. No longer were they in a position to screen the countryside and provide the British occupation forces with operational intelligence.

WHAT'S ON

IRISH SOCIAL NIGHT

Featuring Joe McShane & Foggy Dew
9pm Friday 24th June
Blue Anchor Inn
BELLURGAN
County Louth
Admission £1
Organised by An Cumann Cabhrach
Bus from Dundalk calls at O'Neill's
shop 8.15pm; Muirebharramore, Church
Street 8.25pm; and Clann na nGael's
8.35pm.

CARTY/CROWLEY/LOUGHRAN

COMMEMORATION
(10th Anniversary)
Saturday 25th June
Edendork Cemetery
EDENDORK
County Tyrone

MEDIA WORKSHOP

Saturday & Sunday
June 25th & 26th
15 Cable Street
DERRY

Workshops on photography, posterlay-out
silk screen printing, duplicating &
preparation of press releases and articles
Telephone Derry 68926 for details

VOL DERMOT CROWLEY

COMMEMORATION
(10th Anniversary)
3pm Sunday 26th June
Rathcooney Cemetery
RATHCOENEY
County Cork

BALLAD SESSION

Featuring The Greenway Ramblers
Sunday 26th June
Cassidy's Lounge
COLLON
County Louth
Organised by Sinn Féin

CHRISTY MOORE CONCERT

(In aid of prisoners' dependants)
9pm Sunday 26th June
County Arms Hotel
BIRR

County Offaly

Admission £3.50
Organised by Sinn Féin

RELEASE NELSON MANDELA

OPEN-AIR FESTIVAL
Featuring Paddy Moloney & Sean Potts
(Chieftains), Paddy Glackin,
Seamus Heaney & Bill Meek
Sunday 26th June
Merriem Square
DUBLIN

NICKY KELLY - THE TRUTH

PUBLIC MEETING
8pm Tuesday 28th June
ATGWU Hall
Marlborough Street
DUBLIN

THE WAR GAME

FILM SHOWING
8pm Thursday 30th June
St Columba's School
North Strand Road
DUBLIN
Admission free
Organised by Irish CND

FOLK NIGHT

Featuring The People of No Property
9pm Friday 1st July
The Hideout Bar
Oldtown

LETTERKENNY

County Donegal
Admission £2 (waged), £1 (unwaged)
Organised by Sinn Féin

GRAND DANCE

Featuring The Moonshiners
10pm to 2am Friday 1st July
The Parting Glass
RAPHOE
County Donegal
Admission £2
Organised by Sinn Féin

SINN FEIN SOCIAL

Featuring local artists
9pm Friday 1st July
County Hotel
WEXFORD
Bar extension

Tickets, at £5 each, are obtainable from
Tony Wada, 74 The Foythe, or Peter
Redmond, 9 Mount George, Wexford

NATIONAL MEETING OF

SINN FEIN EDUCATION OFFICERS
1pm Sunday 10th July
5 Blessington Street
DUBLIN
All comhairle ceantair education
officers to attend

FEILE ORIEL MUINEACHAN

(Monaghan's festival of traditional Irish
music, song and dance in Oriel's most
progressive town including 'The Fiddler
of Oriel', Ireland's foremost traditional
fiddler competition - over £300 in
prize money)
Saturday & Sunday
9th & 10th July
MONAGHAN TOWN
Details from Monaghan 82209 or 81480

REVIEW PAGE

TV

'He was a union man'

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

'HOLDING the country to ransom', 'Workers' greed' and 'Strike over a tea-break' are all the sort of headlines which the establishment press use to present hostile news stories about strikes and strikers. In *Viewpoint 2 — Real to Reel*, part of the *For Schools* programmes on ITV on Monday, this media misrepresentation was examined.

The villain of the piece is invariably the shop-steward, who is portrayed as either a nasty commie bent on industrial sabotage or as a self-important buffoon stirring up trouble for the most trivial reasons.

During the health workers' strike in Britain and the danger as nurses walk off wards. There was scant reference to the low wages, long hours and massive responsibility that nurses have borne for years, themselves held to ransom by the British govern-

ment's refusal to consider their demands, cynically exploiting the nurses' dedication.

MINE WORKERS

In *Harlan County USA*, the Channel 4 film on Wednesday, June 15th, striking mine workers were attacked with more than words. Employees of the mine-owners beat them up, rammed their picket line with trucks and fired on them, killing one man, Lawrence Jones.

This documentary followed the progress of the strike, recording the despair of the strikers as the strike dragged on, and the revitalising of the strike by the emergence of a forceful and militant women's committee.

Wives, mothers, sisters and girlfriends of striking mine workers refused to be intimidated by the shooting up of their homes and the terrorising of their children. They joined the picket lines and faced the gun-toting thugs, eventually forcing the mine-owners, the Duke Power Corporation, to sign a contract guaranteeing wage-levels and improved safety regulations.

The story of the 1973 strike was told against a background of years of struggle for decent wages and conditions. Old photographs of a strike in the '30s showed the same grim determination on the faces of the picketers, and interviews with old miners who had been involved told the same story of miners' courageously exposed to unnecessary dangers to save mine-owners' money.

The miners of Harlan County, Kentucky, won their fight. After nine months their contract was signed and six months later a national coalminers' strike won the same rights for

all miners in America.

No one was arrested, however, for Lawrence Jones' murder, and one of the most distressing scenes in this film was the sight of his 16-year-old wife and baby daughter at his funeral. His mother, in spite of her grief, still said:

"He was a union man. No kid of mine would be a yellow-backed scab."

On the *Waterfront*, probably Marlon Brando's best known film, was shown on BBC 2 on Sunday.

This was also about the exploitation and abuse of workers — the dockers in New York.

Brando played Terry Malloy, an ex-boxer working as a 'heavy' for the corrupt union boss. He is awakened to what is happening by Edie Doyle played by Eva Marie Saint, whose brother has been murdered by the gangsters who control the union and the allocation of work on the waterfront.

Marlon Brando won an Oscar for his part in this, one of the first of the new 'realism' films to come out of Hollywood. A great film but in comparison to the true story of murder, greed and suffering told in *Harlan County USA*, its realism lost credibility.



• MARLON BRANDO

Mega-bucks profitwise FILM

BY EDDIE STACK

IT WAS the author of that chilling sci-fi epic 2001, *A Space Odyssey* who wryly quipped to a hoard of press-hounds looking desperately for an angle:

"This is the first age that's paid much attention to the future; which is a little ironic since we may not have one."

Return of the Jedi is just the trick for a world which may not have a future. Its philosophy is so comforting because it is so rooted in the past. Twenty more centuries on, it will be a straight fight between good and evil just like your mother used to tell you in her night-night bedtime tales. In the future it will be shiny knights in Persil white against slimy slug-like monstrosities with three eyes and no brain.

None of your class struggle rubbish here, mate. Not even a tiny whiff of "Workers of the worlds unite, you have nothing to lose but your penal colonies on Galts" (*O' Galaxy* (first turn left after Pluto)).

This good/bad scenario has paid off very handsomely for the makers of the *Star Wars* trilogy. The mega-buck return on the first *Star Wars* epic has created a whole industry of spin-off merchandise: *Star Wars* T-shirts, *Star Wars* toys, *Star Wars* magazines and lollipops. There are some children for whom Christmas would not be the same without their Darth Vader blaster. *Star Trek* was never like this. To hell with Captain Kirk. Give me a Wookiee and the Death Star.

This massive return on in-

vestment has caused problems for the creators of the original. They have had to come up with a convoluted plan of 11 films of

which they now state that the first picture was really episode four in the *Star Wars* drama. Thus the conclusion of episode six, *Return of the Jedi* (or the third film if you follow), will allow the makers to return to show the origins of the universe and the Empire, etc, in the

fourth film, or the first episode (God it's almost enough to make an Android break down and cry). By the end of the series, nearly 25 years will have elapsed between the making of the first film and the making of the last, thus leaving the viewer, it feels now, at the moment in

time when the first damn episode began (or was it the fourth episode?).

This enormous master plan is wrapped around the plot of *Return of the Jedi* like a ball-chain. Scene after scene is drowned by the noise of loose ends being tied together and daft conclusions being hammered into place. So embarrassed was the script-writer at trying to keep the film in step with the first that he sometimes throws his notes out the window and simply writes "15-minute fight sequence here." All this means

that, plot-wise, *Return of the Jedi* stinks from top to toe but action-wise it is a gleaming jewel, wondrous to behold.

BOUNTY HUNTERS

Plot-wise Hans Solo, that lovable rogue, has been captured by bounty hunters and frozen in carbonite to hang trophy-like on the wall of Jabba the Hut, a monstrous lump of slime with an uncanny resemblance to Willie Whitelaw. Solo is rescued from a terrible fate by his friends, led by the Jedi knight Luke Skywalker, the fearless guardian of Truth and Justice. Luke realises that his main task is to kill Darth Vader and destroy the Death Star. Only then can the first episode begin.

Surrounding this daft scenario is some of the most marvellous special effects footage ever shown in a cinema. The model-work makes even your wildest dreams seem like they were about everyday experiences, and planets explode, prehistoric monsters walk the earth and fly complicated machinery, mountains open their mouths and swallow you up with a belch. In stereo, laser beams go in your left ear and come out your right. Whoooh! Zap! Whroooooom!

It literally has to be seen to be believed.

Thus *Return of the Jedi* succeeds despite everything, despite rotten plot, despite the thin characters, despite the fact that it wouldn't know a real emotion if it hit it with the Darth Vader blaster. It succeeds because of its hardware and technology, pure and simple.

My suggestion now is that they shoot the next episode in 3D. For this advice please send 500 million dollars to Eddie Stack, care of AP/RN.



• Return of the Jedi provides an opportunity for Willie Whitelaw to do a bit of double-jobbing

Familiar delights MUSIC

BY JOE McVEIGH

GOOD OLD Planxty deliver the goods yet again with *Words and Music* on WEA. From the opening beat of the bare bodran to the rousing full-blown finale of *The Irish Marche*, the album is a feast of good singing, good playing, colourful arrangements and clear tasty sounds from producer Donal Lunny.

Christy Moore and Andy Irvine sing two songs apiece. I didn't like Christy's vocal style with boring and over-rated Moving Hearts, but here he's a joy again, particularly on the quiet *Lord Baker*, an epic narrative learnt from John Reilly with new words and music from the man himself. The

instrumentation moves the pace and mood of the song perfectly with the singing.

Andy Irvine contributes a fine instrumental of his own, described as "a short piece written somewhere between Windmill Lane Studios and Milan." This leads into the Si Kahn song *Aragon Mill*, an old man's

lament at the closing of the cotton mill, and the drastic changes it brings:

*There's no children at all
In the narrow empty street
Since the mill closed down
It's so quiet I can't sleep.*

Thousands are Sailing is an emigration song, with Andy's voice and mandolin recalling vintage Planxty. Synthesizer is nicely used to colour the background, and Liam O'Flynn pipes the finishing touch.

GOOD STUFF

Indeed, Donal Lunny's synthesizer is a treat throughout the album, as on the traditional slow air *Táimse Im' Chodladh* where it blends perfectly with the piping. Donal also man-

ages to play guitar, bouzouki, bowed psaltery (what?), spinnet, dulcimer, bodran, and his influence on the overall sound is very evident.

Need it be said that Liam O'Flynn's playing is up to his usual master standard and he is joined for some fine fiddling by James Kelly and Nollaig Casey, on the rousing trio of *The Acorny Lasses*, *The Old Wheels of the World* and *The Spike Island Lasses*. *The Irish Marche*, written by 16th century Englishman William Byrd, "was probably inspired by an Irish clan march" and closes the album with a stomp.

It's good stuff all right — full of familiar delights from the famous four, and with plenty of surprising new touches that spring to the ear with every fresh listen.





(Left to right) Terry Harrison, Tony Ruane, Lily Thewles, Jack Moloney and Liam Mulholland

Five veterans honoured

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

FIVE veteran republicans were honoured at the An Cumann Cabhrach annual testimonial in Dublin last Saturday, June 18th, the eve of the Wolfe Tone commemoration.

The five were:

Liam Mulholland — Born in Belfast of a Fenian family, he joined Na Fianna Éireann in 1916 and was involved in the Tan War and Civil War. He continued his republican activity down the years since, was imprisoned in every decade, and was the oldest man interned in Long Kesh in the early '70s.

Jack Moloney — Joined the IRA in Roscrea, County Tipperary, in 1917 and quickly gained a reputation as a fearless guerrilla fighter. A determined republican ever since, and always deeply involved in Irish cultural activities, he is now aged 88, president of the Roscrea GAA Club and vice-president, with fellow veteran Dan Gleeson, of North Tipperary Sinn Féin.

Lillie Thewles — Born in Dublin in 1898, her family was strongly republican. Her mother was a founder member of the Women Prisoners' Defence League with Maud Gonne MacBride and Charlotte Despard. Her uncle, Michael Mallin, a leader of the Irish Citizen Army, was executed for his part in the Easter Rising.

Lillie Thewles joined Cumann na mBan in 1917 and worked with the IRA's Dublin Brigade. She was imprisoned in Mountjoy in 1922 and on her release she began the re-organisation of Cumann na mBan. She has now been an unemployed

republican for more than 70 years.

Tony Ruane — A native of Bohola, County Mayo, Tony Ruane joined Na Fianna Éireann at the age of 12 and graduated to the IRA. He was active in the Tan War in Ireland and England and later went to the United States where he was in Clan na Gael. He returned to the IRA in Dublin in the '30s and was imprisoned and then interned in the '40s.

In 1966 he became national treasurer

of Sinn Féin and held the position until his retirement in 1980.

George Harrison — Also a native of County Mayo, George Harrison is a leading figure in Irish Northern Aid and was one of those acquitted, along with Michael Flannery, on arms charges in the United States recently. At the age of 15 he joined the East Mayo Brigade of the IRA and has been associated with the republican cause ever since.

All the veterans honoured on Saturday were presented with harps handmade by republican prisoners. Terry Harrison, a niece of George Harrison, received his in his place, and Pat O'Connell of Norah, made a speech of acceptance on his behalf.



Lily Thewles receives her harp from a member of Cumann na Gaillinn

GREETINGS

CORRIGAN, Shane (Portlaoise). Happy 21st birthday, Shane. From Patsy Drumm.

CORRIGAN, Shane (Portlaoise). Happy 21st birthday, Shane. From the Ashe/McCann/Hughes Sinn Féin cumann.

CRILLY, Malachy (Cape 11). All the best for your birthday, Malachy. From Colette and Sean.

KELLY, Tony (H-Block). Happy 22nd birthday, son. We all hope your next one is spent in freedom. From mother, father and family.

KELLY, Tony (H-Block). Happy birthday, "Spacer". Don't be taking too much to drink or you'll never get over the wall.

From Jim and Donna.

KELLY, Tony (H-Block). Happy birthday, son. Hope to see you soon. From your brother Vincent, England.

MCCOY, Kevin Barry (H-Block). Happy birthday, Kevin, and best wishes. What age did you say? Only as old as your wee brother? (Hal Hal). Love from mum, dad, brothers and sisters and all around Toome.

MCCOY, Kevin (H-Block). Birthday greetings, Kevin. Plenty of overtime this weather? You can rest now (Hal Hal). Best wishes from Maggie and wee Sorcha.

MCCOY, Patrick Pearse (Cape 11). Happy birthday, Patrick, and best wishes. It won't be long now. Only a wink until you'll be singing 'Maggie'.

Love from mum, dad, brothers and sisters and all around Toome.

ters and all around Toome.

MCCOY, Patrick (Cape 11). Our thoughts are with you today and always. Looking forward to your next birthday. Lots of love from Maggie and wee Sorcha.

MGLINCHEY, Sean (H-Block). Birthday greetings and best wishes, Sean. You are always in our thoughts. Love from mum, dad, brothers and sisters.

MGLINCHEY, Sean (H-Block). Every blessing and good wishes for your birthday, Sean. Thinking of you always. Love from Colette xxx.

MGLINCHEY, Sean (H-Block). All the best for your birthday, Sean. From the McShane family.

MGLINCHEY, Sean (H-Block). Many happy returns, Sean. Your courage is an inspiration to us all. From Una and Conieth.

Irish Lesson

d'íomáir (dimeamur) — we went (away)
thúgamar (hávumur) — we came
thúgamar (hítumár) — we fell
uise (ishekh) — water
gineamh (gonyuv) — sand
cathaoir (koheuer) — a chair
d'ímsh síbh (dimsh shiv) — ye went
thúg síbh (hównig sheud) — they came
thú síbh (hít sheud) — they fell
leaba (labba) — bed

D'íomáir ag a seacht a chlog — We went away at seven o'clock.
Thúg síbh san aiche — They came in the night.

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.

Ritheamhar isteach san uisce — We ran into the water.

Shúidh síbh ar an ngineamh — We walked on the sand.

Thuiteamar isteach sa leaba — We fell into the bed.

D'ímsh síbh amach an doras — Ye went out the door.

Rith síbh ar an mbóthar — Ye ran on the road.

Shídlamar ins an uisce — We walked in the water.

PHRASES
1 — Gan aire ar raon mo shúidh (Gon ahr err rayon mo hoyooid) — Without looking where I was going.

2 — Thit sídh chun foite (hít sheud chun foyote) They became fat (fell into flesh).

3 — Ag síor-rith (egg sheuer rith) — Perpetually running.

4 — D'ímsh na blianta (dimsh nug blienth) — Years went by.

In memory

BROWN, Denis; MEALY, Jackie; MULVENNA, Jim (5th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols Denis Brown, Jackie Mealy, and Jim Mulvenna, Belfast Brigade, Óglagh na hÉireann, who died on active service on June 21st 1978. Fuair siad bá ag a tróid ar son saoirse. Never forgotten by their friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

BROWN, Denis; MEALY, Jackie; MULVENNA, Jim (5th Anniversary). In loving memory of our comrades, Vols Denis Brown, Jackie Mealy and Jim Mulvenna, who were murdered on June 21st 1978. Always remembered by Eugene Fanning, George Markey and Niall Burns, Portlaoise Prison.

CARLIN, Tommy; COYLE, Joe; McCool, Tommy (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols Tommy Carlin, Joe Coyle and Tommy McCool, Derry Brigade, Óglagh na hÉireann, who were killed in action on June 27th 1970. Always remembered by their friends and comrades in the Derry Brigade.

CARLIN, Tommy; COYLE, Joe; McCool, Tommy (13th Anniversary). Derry Sinn Féin remember with pride Vols Tommy Carlin, Joe Coyle and Tommy McCool, Derry Brigade, Óglagh na hÉireann, who died on active service on June 27th 1970. Thug siad a rálbh acu ar tróid ar son saoirse.

CARLIN, Paddy; CROWLEY, Dermot; LOUGHRAN, Sean (10th Anniversary). The Republican Movement, County Tyrone, remember with pride Vols Paddy Carlin, Dermot Crowley and Sean Loughran, Óglagh na hÉireann, Dungannon, who died on active service on June 25th 1973. Fhág siad na n-ádhlaigha seo in Éirinn n' bheith síocháin ann gan saoirse.

CARTY, Paddy; CROWLEY, Dermot; LOUGHRAN, Sean (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols Paddy Carlin, Dermot Crowley and Sean Loughran, who were killed in action on June 25th 1973. RIP, Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for them. Always remembered by the Loughran family, Dungannon.

CARTY, Paddy; CROWLEY, Dermot; LOUGHRAN, Sean (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols Paddy Carlin, Dermot Crowley and Sean Loughran, who were killed in action on June 25th 1973. RIP, Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for them. Always remembered by the Loughran family, Dungannon.

CARTY, Patrick; CROWLEY, Dermot; LOUGHRAN, Sean (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols Paddy Carlin, Dermot Crowley and Sean Loughran who were killed in action on June 25th 1973. Always remembered by the Carrigan family, Rush, County Dublin.

COYLE, Brian (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Brian Coyle, Derry Brigade, Óglagh na hÉireann, who was killed in action on June 30th 1976. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Derry Brigade.

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CRAIG, Gerard; RUSSELL, David (9th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols Gerard Craig and David Russell, Derry Brigade, Óglagh na hÉireann, who were killed in action on June 24th 1974. Always remembered by their friends and comrades in the Derry Brigade.

CRAIG, Gerard; RUSSELL, David (9th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols Gerard Craig and David Russell, Derry Brigade, Óglagh na hÉireann, who were killed in action on June 24th 1974. Fuair siad bá ag a tróid ar son saoirse. Always remembered by Derry Sinn Féin.

CROWLEY, Dermot (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Dermot Crowley, Cork Brigade, Óglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service in Omagh, County Tyrone, on June 25th 1973. "We must take no steps backward, our steps must be on, for if we don't, the martyrs who died for you, for me, for this country, will haunt us for eternity. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Cork Brigade."

CROWLEY, Dermot (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Dermot Crowley who was killed on active service at Omagh, County Tyrone, on June 25th 1973. "They may kill the revolutionary but never the revolution." Never forgotten by Na Fianna Éireann, Cork.

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County Tyrone. A Muire na nGael déan trólaire ar a nam. Always remembered by the Cork Sinn Féin comhairle ceantair.

CROWLEY, Dermot (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Dermot Crowley who was killed on active service on June 25th 1973 at Omagh, County Tyrone. Fuair sé bá ag a tróid ar son saoirse. Never forgotten by the Traolach MacSúilleáin Sinn Féin cumann, Corcaigh.

CROWLEY, Dermot (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Dermot Crowley who was killed on active service at Omagh, County Tyrone, on June 25th 1973. "While Ireland holds these graves, Ireland unfree shall never be at peace." Never forgotten by the Thomas McCurtain Sinn Féin cumann, Cork.

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FINUCANE, John; JORDAN, Tony (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vols John Finucane and Tony Jordan, Belfast Brigade, Óglagh na hÉireann, who died on June 28th 1972. I measc laochra na nGael go rálbh a n-ádhlaigha seo in Éirinn n' bheith síocháin ann gan saoirse.

FINUCANE, John (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my brother, Vol John Finucane, who died on June 28th 1972. "Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for them. Always remembered with love and pride by Dermot, Ailish and niece Grainne."

FINUCANE, John; JORDAN, Tony (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my brother, Vol John Finucane, and Tony Jordan, Belfast Brigade, Óglagh na hÉireann, who died on June 28th 1972. "As long as grass grows and water runs, men and women will be found ready to dare and give their lives in the cause of Irish freedom and will deem the sacrifice a virtue not a sin." Always remembered by the n-anamacha. An dheathraichea Seamus agus Diarmuid, 47 Cels Fada.

LOUGHRAN, Sean (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear brother, Sean, who was killed in action on June 25th 1973. RIP, Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for them. Always remembered by his sister Ann, Frank and family, Dungannon.

LOUGHRAN, Sean (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear son, Sean, who was killed on June 25th 1973. RIP, Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for them. Always remembered by his loving mother Mary Loughran, Dungannon.

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MULVENNA, Jim (5th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Jim Mulvenna, 3rd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on June 21st 1978. RIP. "In every generation bravest and best have died. Sometimes in our grief we cry out foolish and unfeeling words. 'The sacrifice is too great', but still we know it was because they were our best and bravest that they died." Always remembered by Pauline, Tony and family.

THE BOBBY SANDS SINN FEIN CUMANN KILLGOLDRIN, COUNTY KERRY, remember with pride the 10 brave Irishmen who gave their lives on hunger-strike in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh in 1982. "Ireland unfree shall never be at peace."

silent grief, she rests in God's beautiful garden, beside a rose coloured path." Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for her.

McKEOWN, Kevin O'Neill and Paul McGlinchey extend sincere sympathy to our comrade Laurence McKee on the death of his mother, Margaret. "Her life was a beautiful memory, her absence a

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SYMPATHY

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McKEOWN, Kevin O'Neill and Paul McGlinchey extend sincere sympathy to our comrade Laurence McKee on the death of his mother, Margaret. "Her life was a beautiful memory, her absence a

Draw results

Ardmore Sinn Féin 20 Week Draw
Week 3: £100: John Doherty, Kieran Cookstown; £15: Eamonn Doherty, Ardmore Crescent, Omagh; £5: Larry Strain, Rich Street, Omagh.

Week 4: £100: Michael Rafferty, Loughnacross, Omagh; £15: Martin Harter, Pomeroy; £5: Martin Ward, Glenacasser, Gortliff.

Dublin Sinn Féin/POW Dept
Portfolio Mahogany Table Draw
Winner: Mr Phil Flannery, Ringsend.

Shantallow Sinn Féin £50 Monthly Draw
February: Eddie McCaillon, c/o Callow Barr; March: R. Daly, c/o Daly's Bar; April: D. Gallagher, c/o Ute Ceramics.

S. Tyrone Sinn Féin Building Fund Draw
Week 12: £100: Charles McKillop, Dungannon; £30: Tom Cotton, Dungannon; £20: Maureen Kelly, Derrylin.

Video project
A DERRY video project is being set up on a commercial basis and personnel with experience in all aspects of video production are now being sought.

All enquiries or applications should be sent to Box 2000, 15 Cable Street, Derry.

Inquest contradicts Brits

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

EVIDENCE submitted by British soldiers was rejected as false by a jury at the end of a three-day inquest into the death of 11-year-old Derry child, Stephen McConomy, who died after being struck by a plastic bullet on April 16th 1982.

The inquest held in Crumlin Road Coroner's Court found that there was 'insufficient evidence' to suggest that Stephen McConomy had been involved in rioting and that the extent of street disturbances did not justify the use of plastic bullets because the soldiers "did not appear to have been in any great danger."

This verdict contradicted the evidence of Lance-Corporal Nigel Robert Engelfield, the soldier who fired the fatal shot. In a written submission to the inquest, which he failed to attend, he claimed that he believed he had been 'in real danger' at the time.

Hearing evidence from over 30 witnesses the inquest accepted that there had been some disturbances prior to the fatal shooting. Between 20 and 30 youths had thrown bricks and lumps of concrete at a British army Saracen.

A plastic bullet was fired and the youths



● A distraught Mrs McConomy, with sons Emmet and Mark, at Stephen's funeral on April 22nd 1982

dispersed. It was during the following lull in activity that a soldier firing from a range of 17 feet (well within the recommended minimum distance of 60 feet) unleashed the bullet which killed Stephen McConomy. The jury was told that the gun used was defective.

Stephen's mother, Mrs Marie McConomy, was too emotionally upset to be present for the outcome of the inquest, but her

sister, Mrs Rhona Toland, said:

"Our wee Stephen's name has been cleared. I think she (his mother) will be more contented now but it won't bring him back to us."

Earlier in the hearing, the coroner, James Elliott, had distributed his own interpretation of the events surrounding Stephen McConomy's death, as a 'guideline' for the jury. This was reluctantly withdrawn follow-

ing strong objections from William Hassan, representing the McConomy family.

FUTURE TRAGEDY

Following the inquest, Elliott declined to make a recommendation on the continued use of plastic bullets with a view to avoiding a future tragedy of a similar nature.

Calls for a public inquiry into the use of this lethal weapon have, however, come from the Organisation of Concerned Teachers in Belfast and the National Council for Civil Liberties in London, one of whose members, Dermot Walsh, attended the hearing and suffered abuse from an RUC man.

Derry Sinn Fein elected representative Martin McGuinness commented:

"The verdict of the inquest is an indictment of the British government's use of horrific weapons against Irish children... and will confirm people's belief that soldiers can kill our children at will, without fear of prosecution."

"The excuse that the plastic bullet gun was defective will ring hollow to the people of this city who have long experience of Britain's ability to cover up its crimes. The fact is that Stephen McConomy was killed on the streets of Derry by a foreign soldier enforcing, through violence, Britain's rule in Ireland."

B&I inquest adjourned

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

AN INQUEST on 20-year-old Eamonn Byrne, shot dead by a Special Branchman at the B&I Ferryport in Dublin last November, was adjourned for a fortnight on Monday this week.

Eamonn Byrne was shot during an alleged attempted robbery of the ferry, which, the gardai said, they had staked-out after a tip-off. When Byrne was challenged by Special Branchmen at the B&I terminal that morning, he threw his gun away and lay on the ground. He was then shot in the back of the head as he lay face down.

The statements read out at the inquest from the Branchmen involved were very different from the claims made by the gardai after the shooting. Then they said that Eamonn Byrne had been shot 'after he turned a gun on the detectives'. After a demand from Sinn Fein and the Prisoners' Rights Organisation

for an immediate investigation to establish the exact circumstances of the fatal shooting, the gardai changed their version of what happened. They then claimed that the shooting was 'accidental', and that a Branchman's gun 'went off during a struggle'.

This version was elaborated on at Monday's inquest, when Detective Garda John Ryan said he saw two of his colleagues "struggling with a man on the ground." Detective Garda Noel Smith said in his statement that he shouted at Eamonn Byrne to stop or he would shoot if Byrne tried to get to a car. He said he then saw "something flying through the air." Eamonn



● Part of the 200-strong picket demanding an independent inquiry into the shooting of Eamonn Byrne

Byrne was lying on the ground when Detective Garda Kieran Walsh came along.

Ryan claimed he heard a shot and heard Walsh shout: "He has been shot. My God, my gun went off."

BALLISTICS

The witnesses were cross-examined by Sean MacBride SC, for the Irish Council for Civil Liberties, the Prisoners' Rights Organisation,

and by Patrick MacEntee for Byrne's family. MacEntee complained about not being given access to the pathologist's report or to the ballistics report, even though he had asked for them weeks before the inquest. The latter report, by gardai, claims that the gun could have been discharged accidentally because of its 'low trigger action'.

MacEntee also complained about the fact that the garda witnesses

were having their statements read out to them and asked if they were correct, and did not have to give verbal evidence. He said that he and his clients were being "deliberately and systematically disadvantaged at this inquest."

The court was picketed by about 200 people, including Eamonn Byrne's wife, Elizabeth, and their 16-month-old baby. There will be a picket on July 4th when the inquest resumes.

EXECUTION

In a statement issued on Tuesday, Dublin Sinn Fein said:

"At the time of the killing of Eamonn Byrne Sinn Fein issued a statement condemning this summary execution by members of the gardai."

"We called on the media to carry out an immediate investigation into the killing as we believe it to be ludicrous to imagine that the gardai would carry out an impartial investigation into allegations against their own members."

"The fact that the report on the internal garda inquiry has been kept secret goes to show that there is obviously something to hide."

"We demand the right of the public to know who shot Eamonn Byrne dead and why he has not been brought to trial. Otherwise we must assume that armed Special Branchmen, like their counterparts in the North, the RUC, now have a licence to shoot to kill, or are acting on orders to do so."

Ormeau sectarian attack

IN A TYPICAL pre-July 12th incident on Saturday night, June 19th, shots were fired at nationalists in the Ormeau Road area of Belfast after they had repulsed a stone-throwing loyalist mob from Havelock Street.

The same gunman also fired four shots at three nationalist couples returning from the city centre as they made their way along a section of the Ormeau Road known as 'Murder Mile' because of the frequency of sectarian attacks.

RUC men at Donegall Pass Barracks on the following day mockingly dismissed the attack as "some young fellows sleeping rough" who had "probably found an old gun" but "wouldn't do any harm."

However, the Sinn Fein spokesperson in South Belfast, Sean McKnight, urged nationalists in the Ormeau Road area to be "extremely careful on this most dangerous part of the Ormeau Road."

He also condemned the hardships endured by nationalists in the area at this time of the year, suffering a 'mini-curfew' while loyalists parade up and down the main road.



● Sinn Fein's Sean McKnight points to the bullet holes (ringed) from Saturday's loyalist attack

Election rankles with RUC

RUC PERSONNEL have continued to harass Sinn Fein election workers after the Westminster campaign has ended, specifically mentioning their election involvement as a reason for them being singled out.

One Coalisland youth, James McLaughlin, aged 19, was stopped, within yards of his home on Derryvarn Road, by a three-man RUC patrol as he returned from a local church on Friday night, June 16th. He was held for over half-an-hour.

An RUC sergeant told him: "If we get you along the road we'll shoot you. What'll you do then, eh? You'll have to run to Ken Maginnis. See if he'll help you. You haven't got Carron now."

In Derry last week two youths who had worked in the Sinn Fein election campaign, John White, aged 18, of Creggan, and Patrick Doherty, aged 17, of the Bogside, were held for two days in Strand Road RUC Barracks.

During interrogation they were told: "You were only arrested because you worked



● Patrick Doherty and John White for Sinn Fein during the elections. If you had worked for the SDLP or the Workers' Party we would not have pulled you in."

The two youths were released after 48 hours, without being charged.