

UNITED IRISHMAN



AN tEIREANNACH AONTAITHE

IUIL (JULY) 1977

Vol. 35 No. 7. 10p (30c)

Monthly Newspaper of Sinn Féin The Workers' Party

Fianna Fail cannot deliver the goods

A new generation of voters made its voice heard loud and clear on June 16th last. In throwing out the 'Government of all the talents' hundreds of thousands of young voters showed they wanted jobs not excuses. And they will be just as decisive in telling Fianna Fail that promises must be kept.

This worries Jack Lynch. Fianna Fail's dazzling array of promises will haunt him during the lifetime of the next Dail. For he knows that his party has raised hopes that cannot be realised within a gombeen-capitalist economy. Yet, with a massive twenty-seat majority, Lynch will have a difficult task explaining Fianna Fail's inevitable failure to the electorate.

So too, the Labour Party faces a

difficult task in re-establishing itself as a party of the working-class. The party which failed to add even a social-democratic flavour to the Coalition Government will be hard pushed to convince workers that its 'soul' is socialist. The debonair Michael O'Leary may cut a fine figure as a socialist in the rarefied environs of Grafton Street but it won't wash with the Dublin working-class.

The working-class vote which Fianna Fail undoubtedly attracted in this election will not automatically revert to the Labour Party in four years time. Even in the unlikely event of the maverick Noel Browne gaining any significant influence in the party, workers will be looking for something more than a one-man band. And

essentially this is all Browne can offer.

Workers will also be looking for something more than a sudden fit of socialist fervour from Labour leaders. Already the unseemly scramble to the 'Left' has begun as the O'Learys and Halligans brush up their old socialist speeches. But it will not go unnoticed that the Labour Party is 'socialist' only when in opposition.

Neither should it go unnoticed that Fine Gael in defeat is prone to untypical bouts of honesty. The votes were barely counted when Richie Ryan declared himself in favour of a move to the Right in a speech which harked back to the hey-day of the Blueshirts. Not to be outdone, John M. Kelly called for a return to the hairshirt spirit of Arthur Griffith and Eamon de Valera

which for workers would mean a return to the 'guaranteed Irish' hardship of the Thirties.

So, while the 'nationally-minded' Provisionals and IRSP celebrate the victory of Fianna Fail, the organised working-class must prepare for victory in the years ahead. The response to socialist policies in this election was encouraging. And as the population grows, so too will the recognition of the need for a planned economy. In addition, an increasingly young electorate has shown that it is concerned more with the future than with the past. This is a most welcome development as it sounds the death-knell for traditional civil-war politics and opens the way for a growth in class politics.

Party vote increased

The massive swing to Fianna Fail in the General Election leaving them as the party with the largest number of seats in the history of the State has somewhat overshadowed the excellent performance of Sinn Féin The Workers' Party.

The Party polled overall 27,203 First Preference votes; the final vote i.e. including all transfers was 31,745. The average for the 16 Constituencies contested was roughly 4.4% of the total valid poll. But there were the dramatic rises in Cork North East, 9.47% and in Waterford, Paddy Gallagher gained 10.56%.

Some interesting pointers for the future emerge when the voting figures are broken down and comparisons made between the Party's performance and the Labour Party. For example in the 16 contested constituencies our percentage of the combined Labour and Sinn Féin The Workers'

Party vote was a very credible 27.5%. And in the three constituencies of North East Cork, Waterford and Louth the Labour Party were defeated easily.

Contesting five seats in the Dublin area the total votes gained was 6,201 which in fact was better than the national average. Although if examined as a percentage of the "Left" poll it was considerably lower. The fact of fresh candidates in the field like Eric Byrne and Ray McGran had some effect on the total; both however took over 4% of the poll. A reasonable performance on a first contest.

It is difficult as yet to come up with any positive analysis of the reasons behind the unique swing to Fianna Fail. Clearly the politics of the Civil War played almost no part in the voting. As the Irish Times opinion survey had pointed out prior to the Election there was a degree of cynicism about the difference in the policies of the Coalition and Fianna Fail. Efforts also to make the North a key issue failed and it is unlikely that this played any part in the decisions of voters.

Two of the most interesting rejections which may have had more political content than the overall voting behaviour were that of the former Ministers O'Brien and Cooney. Both of whom in their own way had alienated large sections of the population.



Cllr. Joe Sherlock (North East Cork) who increased his vote by 80% over the 1973 election. A spectacular advance. Joe would now seem certain to take a seat in any future election.

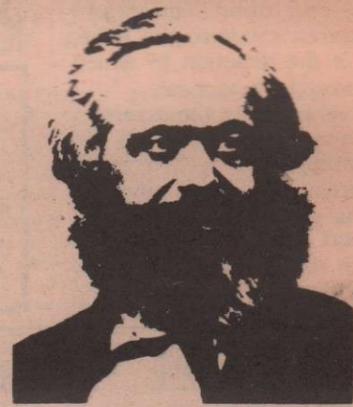


Cllr. Donncha Mac Raghnaill (left) who polled 1,900 first preferences in Louth. Not dismissed until the 8th count Mac Raghnaill defeated two Labour Party candidates.



Alderman Paddy Gallagher (Waterford), his first time to run, lasted until the last count having gained a total of 4,500 first preferences. Like Sherlock, Gallagher should win next time round.

Sean Cronin
MARX
& THE IRISH QUESTION



REPSOL

This new Repsol is by Sean Cronin, former editor of the United Irishman. Currently working in the USA he contributes a weekly 'Letter from New York' to The Irish Times.

Marx told a meeting of the General Council of the International that "he considered the solution of the Irish Question as the solution of the English, and the English as the solution of the European."

History has altered the form of the Irish Question but this does not lessen the relevance of Marx's thoughts on Ireland. This present study provides ample food for thought for both the student and practitioner of politics.

Letters

Comrade,

I refer to your lead article entitled "War of Nerves" in the May issue of the United Irishman. In the course of a piece on the UUAC strike you suggest that an 'independence group' in the UUAC encouraged in this belief by (those) members of the British and Irish Communist Organisation who can exert some influence in those quarters.

If you had actually read what the B&ICO have been saying over the last few years instead of wildly speculating, you could not possibly have come to the above conclusion. Soon after the 1974 Loyalist strike, the B&ICO discovered and subsequently publicised the fact that the Northern Ireland Office were assiduously promoting the idea of an independent Ulster among the Protestant paramilitaries. This was after Merlyn Rees discovered something called 'Ulster nationalism' and decided that it might be a useful way of levering Northern Ireland out of the UK state. This strategy, such as it was, failed to gain any support whatsoever for the independent Ulster notion and the recent local government elections showed the total derisory vote which the independence party, the Dominion Party, was able to generate.

Far from advocating the 'independent Ulster' idea, the B&ICO have consistently opposed it, maintaining instead that the only way in which this war will be brought to an end is by the British government making it absolutely clear that Northern Ireland will remain part of the UK. We believe that the process will be facilitated by integrating Northern Ireland fully within the UK, and that setting up separate state institutions in Northern Ireland may tend only to exacerbate the tensions within the community by making it appear that the constitutional future of Northern Ireland is still an open question. Whatever influence we have, that is the direction in which we brought it to bear.

In view of this, the assertion in your article can only be interpreted one or two ways. Either you don't read anything of the groups or people you purport to comment on, in which case you are merely expending hot air by engaging

in make-believe journalism, or you have read the material in which case you could not have been in any doubt whatsoever about our position in regard to Ulster independence. If that is so, then you have quite deliberately lied in misrepresenting the B&ICO. Indeed, it is difficult to believe that you are not well acquainted with our literature, since your publication, the Irish Industrial Revolution, on which your reviewer in the same May issue, waxes lyrical, bears a most striking resemblance to the B&ICO pamphlet the "Economics of Partition", published in 1969. Nevertheless chagrin should not be allowed to get the better of truth and objectivity.

Yours etc.
Eamon O'Kane,
10 Athol Street,
Belfast,

• Editor's comment

One of the boasts of the B & ICO used to be the extent of their influence within the ranks of the para-military Ulster Defence Association. As a group they actively encouraged the idea of a 6 County Trade Union Congress thereby promoting the sectarian division of Irish workers and aligning themselves with the right wing ideology of Paisley and Powell.

The shift within the B & ICO to an "integrationist position" is nothing more than a rediscovery of their neo-Walkerite roots. Interestingly enough it brings them closer to Dr. Paisley who after the closing of Stormont adopted this position almost immediately.

We must also apologise to some British comrades who did not fully grasp which organisation we were referring to in the "War of Nerves" article. The B & ICO derive their intellectual position from the pseudo-scientific British philosophy empiricism which is in total opposition to the Marxist philosophy of dialectical and historical materialism.

MARTIN O'LEARY COMMEMORATION Sunday, July 10.

Assembly:
Ballyphehane Church, 12 Noon

Social Saturday, July 9,
Ballyphehane Community Centre.

• Editor's comment

In last month's issue due to pressure of space an editorial comment on a letter (J. Harrison) was omitted. Mr. Harrison quoted remarks from a member of the Central Committee of the Italian C.P. and the Secretary of the Spanish C.P. in support of his defence of Soviet 'dissidents.' He also speculated as to the sources used by the United Irishman for what he described "as a puppet-like reiteration of the Official Line".

The sources of the article were certainly 'official' if that can be understood to mean that they were not taken from the "Daily Telegraph" or the "New York Times".

Does Mr. Harrison seriously believe that the Western media, in particular the wire services would print the truth about criminals such as Solzhenitzyn and the others? The evidence on

Solzhenitzyn is amplified on page 12.

It has been established absolutely that the CIA recruit agents among American foreign correspondents and that ample funds are available to assist the efforts of 'dissident intellectuals' in smearing the achievements of the Socialist countries and the Soviet Union in particular.

The "United Irishman" has no intention of engaging in any disagreement between members of Western Communist Parties as to the degree of freedom in Eastern Europe. But we could not agree with the quote attributed to the member of the Italian C.P. Central Committee as to the reliability of the Socialist Press. We can only base our opinions on the knowledge that in Pravda there is daily criticism of aspects of the Soviet Union in the form of readers' letters.

CRAC '77

A week long festival of music, dancing, & debate, films and theatre in the Handsworth area of Birmingham culminating in a 2 day Folk Festival Saturday/Sunday August 20/21 at Lozells Social Development Centre, Lozells Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

Artistes include:

Dominic Behan; Sean MacLoughlin, Traditional musician; Sean Cannon (a leading ballad singer on the English scene); The Fantastic Lagan Folk Group from Glasgow; Pascal Dwyer - many times Bodhran champion, with his family of entertainers; Also Irish Dancers, Pipers, Theatre group, children's entertainment, side shows, and refreshments. Films and Seminars arranged.

Poem (any length English or Irish) £25.

Piece of Investigative Writing, maximum 2,000 words, in English or Irish, £25.

New Ballad in Traditional Style, Dominic Behan Shield.

For further details of competitions write to CRAC '77, 173 Lozells Road, Birmingham 19. (Organised by Clann na hEireann).

Successful fundraising

"A most successful fundraising" was how the International Affairs Bureau of Sinn Fein The Workers' Party described their IRELAND DRAW which took place on Tuesday 31st May. Cash and counterfoils came from as far away as Namibia in Southern Africa; Guyana in Latin America; Jamaica in the Caribbean and from many of the States in America together with good returns from Britain, Germany, Brittany, Australia, New Zealand and Sweden.

The prizes in the IRELAND DRAW were presented to our International Affairs Bureau by Irish political prisoners and the following won prizes:

1st Prize: No. 30667.

African National Congress (Youth).

2nd Prize: No. 29925.

John King, New York City.

3rd Prize: No. 18169.

Pauline Loughrey,
Balbriggan, Co. Dublin.

4th Prize: No. 4081.

William Norris,
Kildorrery, Co. Cork.

BUILD A SOCIALIST FUTURE!

Join the Irish Democratic Youth Movement

"To enable young people to play a full part in the struggle for the creation of a United Democratic Socialist Republic of Ireland in which the people of Ireland will own and control the wealth and resources of the country".

Name

Address

Age

Applications To:

General Secretary, Irish Democratic Youth Movement, 30 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1.

Cabhair

Irish Republican Prisoners Defence & Aid Fund
30 Gardiner Place Dublin 1

Funds urgently needed for ●Republican Prisoners Welfare

●Aid for Dependents ●Legal Aid

All Contributions Acknowledged

From Our Bookshop

RECORDS AND CASSETTES

Ulster Outcry: Ar Leithidi	£2.75
Smash Internment	£1.99
Men Behind the Wire	£1.99
Black thorn	£2.40
Chieftains 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	each £3.85
Ireland's Fight for Freedom	£2.40
Songs of the Irish Republic	£1.99
Songs of 1798	£1.99
Songs of Irish Civil Rights	£1.99
Folk from the Mournes: The Sands	£2.25
Na Fili	£2.75
Na Fili 3	£2.75
Best of Sean Maguire	£2.75
Toss the Feathers: Ted Furey and Brendan Byrne	£2.75
Mairtin O Cadhain	£2.25
Old Hag You Have Killed Me 'The Bothy Band (Record Only)	£3.75
Bonaparte's Retreat: The Chieftains No. 6 (record only)	£3.75
20 Requested Ballads of Ireland	£2.75
Ireland's Own Margaret Barry	£3.00
Prosperous: Christy Moore (Record Only)	£3.75
The Book of Invasions: Horslips	£3.50

Death of veteran Republican



● Frank McGlade

It is with deep regret that the Republican Clubs learned of the death, following a heart attack, of veteran Republican Frank McGlade, on June 7.

Mr. McGlade, who was 66 years of age, joined the Republican Movement in his early youth and remained an active member of the organisation right up to his death.

During his long struggle for the Republican cause, Frank was continually harassed by State Forces, North and South of the border.

He was interned from 1938-1945; during the fifties he was interned in the Curragh and in 1971 he was interned in Long Kesh for 9 months.

Apart from long periods of internment, Frank McGlade served shorter spells in jails for activities such as selling Easter Lilies and having Republican literature that declared the right of the people to use physical force in self defence.

Only months after being released from Long Kesh in 1972 Frank was brought to court and fined for failing to complete census forms. Frank was a candidate for the Republican Clubs in the 1973 Local Government Elections, and campaigned actively for the successful Republican Clubs candidate Seamus Lynch only weeks ago.

Frank was a member of the N.I. Civil Rights Association from its formation ten years ago.

A fluent Gaelic speaker, Frank promoted all aspects of Irish culture through-out his life, particularly in the Oldpark district where he lived for a life-time.

As a dedicated Republican Socialist, Frank McGlade was one of the people who strongly resisted the Fianna Fail overtures to the Republican Movement in 1968 and 1969. When the Provisionals were finally bought off by these elements Frank remained true to the Republican cause, giving a life-time of unswerving allegiance, dedication and work to the Republican Movement and the working people of Belfast. To his wife, Rebecca and family, the Republican Clubs extend deepest heartfelt sympathy.

Tomas Mac Giolla, President of Sinn Fein The Workers' Party, delivered the oration at the graveside.

National Book Service

<input type="checkbox"/>	a seventh Man; Migrant Workers in Europe	£1.13
<input type="checkbox"/>	And Nelson on his Pillar, by Bolger and Shaw	£1.60
<input type="checkbox"/>	A History of Quebec, by Leandre Bergeron	75p
<input type="checkbox"/>	An Economic History of Ireland, by L. M. Cullen	£3.30
<input type="checkbox"/>	British Imperialism in Ireland, by E. Burns	55p
<input type="checkbox"/>	British Working Class Movements and Europe, by H. Weissner	£8.35
<input type="checkbox"/>	Capitalism and After (by George Thomson)	67p
<input type="checkbox"/>	Connolly and Irish Freedom, by Schuller	27p
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dan Breen: My Fight for Irish Freedom	£1.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Divided Ulster, by L. de Paor	50p
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dublin: A City in Crisis	£3.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Erin's Hope and the New Evangel, by James Connolly	19p
<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Work: Left Alternative	32p
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gola — Last Days of an Island Community	70p
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gur Cake and Coal Blocks, by Eamonn MacThomais	£4.20
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hands Off Dublin! by D. Kelly and P. Langan	£1.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ireland and Irishmen in the American War of Independence	£2.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ireland Before the Famine, by G. O'Tuathaigh	£1.75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ireland in the Eighteenth Century, by M. Johnstone	£1.75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ireland in the 20th Century, by J. Murphy	£1.45
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ireland Since the Famine, by F. Lyons	£2.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ireland in World Commerce, by C. Hultman	50p
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ireland and Irishmen in the American Revolution	£2.20
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ireland, Britain and Germany 1870-1914, by F. Prill	£7.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Labour in Irish History, by James Connolly	37p
<input type="checkbox"/>	Labour in Irish Politics, by A. Mitchell	£3.95
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lenin: On the National and Colonial Revolutions	12p
<input type="checkbox"/>	Liam Mellows and the Irish Revolution, by C. D. Greaves	£4.25
<input type="checkbox"/>	Liberties of Dublin by Elgy Gillespie	£1.75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Life and Times of James Connolly, by C. D. Greaves	£1.85
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marx In His Own Words (Ed. Ernest Fischer)	67p
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marx & Engels: Selected Works in 1 Vol.	£1.75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marx & Engels: Selected Works in 3 Vols.	£5.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marx: The Grundrisse	£1.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marx/Engels: On Ireland	£1.75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Modernisation of Irish Society 1848-1918, by R. Lee	£1.75
<input type="checkbox"/>	No Pasaran! Story of the Irish volunteers in the Spanish Civil War	37p
<input type="checkbox"/>	Portugal's War in Africa, by R. First	27p
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recollections of a Rebel Father, Nora Connolly	£2.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Relevance of James Connolly Today, by George Gilmore	12p
<input type="checkbox"/>	Revolutionary Underground: The Story of the IRB 1858-1924	£7.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Revolution in Guine, by Amilcar Cabral	£1.35
<input type="checkbox"/>	Return to Source, by Amilcar Cabral	£1.50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Star over China, by Edgar Snow	£1.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Revolutionary Europe, by George Rude	60p
<input type="checkbox"/>	Science in China	80p
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gramsci: Letters from Prison and Conference Papers	£2.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Connolly Walker Controversy	32p
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Course of Irish history, Ed Martin & Moody	£2.25
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Guinea Pigs, by J. McGuffin	50p
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Irish Civil Service, by S. Dooney	£3.75
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Irish Economy, ASTMS	40p
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Irish Worker, by R. Deeny	£1.60
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Reconquest of Ireland, by James Connolly	25p
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Republican Congress, by G. Gilmore	30p
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Revolutionaries, by S. Cronin	42p
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Story of Irish Labour, by J. McDonnell	37p
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Irish Song Tradition, by Sean O'Boyle	£2.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Green Flag: The Most Distressful Country, by Robert Kee	£2.25
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Green Flag: The Bold Fenian Men, by Robert Kee	£2.25
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Green Flag: Ourselves Alone by Robert Kee	£2.25
<input type="checkbox"/>	The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence, by Marchetti & Marks	£2.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Seven Sisters: The Great Oil Companies, by Anthony Sampson	£1.20
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Red Paper on Scotland, by Ed. Gordon Brown	£2.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Taiping Revolution	40p
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Peoples Democracy, by Paul Arthur	£2.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Struggle of the Unemployed in Belfast, October 1932	20p
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Irish Crisis	22p
<input type="checkbox"/>	Women Under Socialism by August Bebel	£3.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Women and Employment in Ireland	£1.25

All above prices include postage for Ireland and Britain only.

Cheques and P.O.s should be made payable to P. Yeates.

BOOK CATALOGUE NOW AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Please send me the items marked

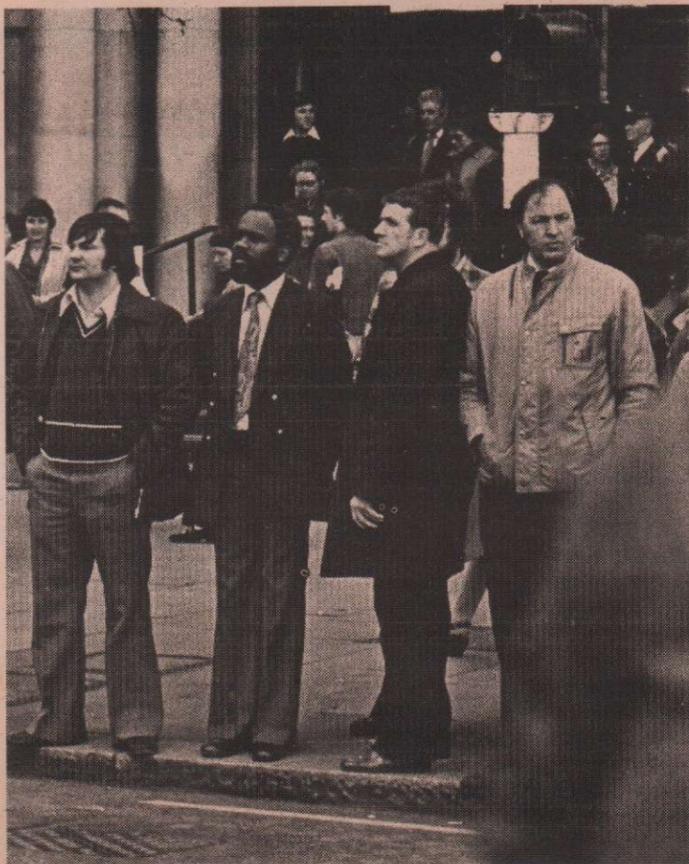
AINM

SEOLADH

Enclosed is P.O. value £

Send orders to the United Irishman Office, 30 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1.

Special Branch keep watch on Trade Unionists



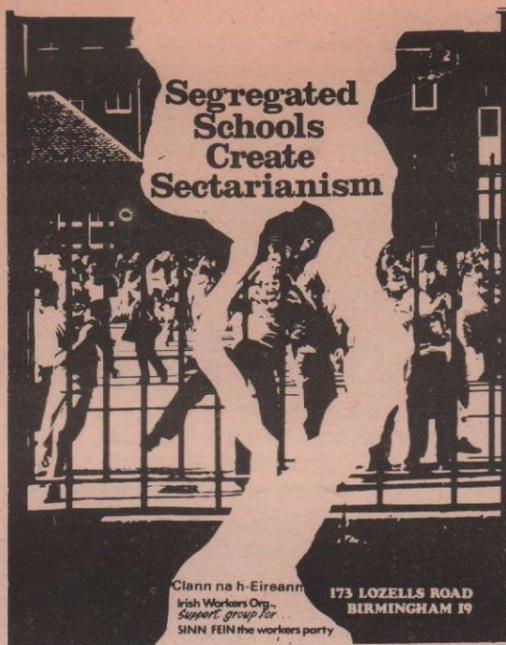
The four gentlemen caught by a candid camera might look like innocent onlookers at a parade but in fact they are members of the London Special Branch. The parade they were so intent upon was the May Day March in the metropolis organised by the Labour Movement in which over 5,000 Trade Unionists demonstrated.

Regular readers will remember the picture of a Special Branch member observing the Better Life for All Rally in Belfast last year. A fact which annoyed the Trade Unionists at that time. Now it would seem that the practice has been extended to cover all public Trade Union activities anywhere in the UK. Our photographer tells us that the London May Day March was literally saturated by this type of plain clothes surveillance.

New Repsol posters for the Seventies

This poster produced by Clann na h-Eireann and available from the address printed here (price 50p) is the first in a series which the Scottish members hope will help build the campaign against sectarianism in Scotland. Clann are also preparing a similar poster for distribution in Ireland. Details will be announced later.

This new Larkin poster designed and printed by Repsol (50p) has echoes in the People in Politics column Page 12. Larkin was one of the giants of industrial trade unionism. The poster, in black and white, is being printed in a limited number. Order now for what will become a collector's item.



UNITED IRISHMAN An tEireannach Aontaithe

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (12 MONTHS)

IRELAND & BRITAIN	£2.50
EUROPE	£3.50
USA/AUSTRALIA & elsewhere	\$10

Cheques/Postal Orders should be made payable to: THE UNITED IRISHMAN, 30 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1.

NAME

ADDRESS

Rowntree-McAlinden Commemoration Sunday July 10

assemble

The Mall, Newry at 2.30.

March to Cemetery for Unveiling
of new Memorial

All areas invited to attend

UNITED IRISHMAN

AntEireannach Aontaithe

MONTHLY NEWSPAPER OF SINN FEIN THE WORKERS' PARTY

LANDSLIDE

With the Election results to hand the question in many peoples minds was how could any political commentator have thought that the Coalition would win? Certainly, if they had canvassed at the doors rather than listening to political gossip they would have clearly got the message "we need a change". The massive size of the vote for change took everyone by surprise.

In urban areas the decisive factor for change was undoubtedly prices — especially food prices! If you cannot feed your family then you will throw out the devil you know and take a

chance on the one you are not sure of. Many a vote in Dublin was decided on the basis of the price of a head of cabbage — 30p on Polling Day!

Any Government which allows such a situation to develop in a rich agricultural country such as ours is clearly not governing and deserve to be tramped on and humiliated as the Coalition was.

Unemployment was of course, another major factor in the vote for change, especially lack of job prospects for young people. Very many young people did not vote at all but those who did voted in the main against the Coalition. The significant thing is that Fianna Fail had nothing positive to offer the voters either on the issue of prices or jobs. Nevertheless the

determined vote against the Coalition fell into their laps because the voters wanted a change of Government.

The now famous Fianna Fail promises in relation to car tax, house grants, etc., did of course shake out a few thousand votes which may have affected marginal seats but in fact without any such promises Fianna Fail would still have gained an overall majority.

It would be a mistake, however, to think that the election was decided solely on the basis of prices and jobs. The image of the Government in the public mind was one of arrogance and aloofness. People were concerned about the serious encroachment on civil liberties, the gradual politicisation of the army and police to make them an arm of the Fine Gael Party; the fascist tendencies disclosed in Cosgrave's speech, the attempts to equate the actions of Pearse and Connolly with the squalid sectarianism of the Provisionals, and the gradual

abandonment of the Irish language.

Liam Cosgrave's government was probably the most hated government since W. T. Cosgrave's which he tried so much to emulate. His close lieutenants Cooney and O'Brien paid the price by losing their seats.

In the midst of this landslide to Fianna Fail, Sinn Fein The Workers' Party got an excellent vote, 70% higher than in 1973. While there was some disappointment that no seats were won, they were close to winning in both Waterford and Cork North East. If seats are to be won here or in Louth, Donegal or elsewhere at the next election a second candidate will need to be nominated as the necessary transfer to reach the quota will not be got from the other parties.

Unless the Labour Party becomes as much an opposition to Fine Gael as to Fianna Fail, Labour transfers will still go to Fine Gael.

Council for Civil Liberties settles down to serious business

Over 125 people attended the first Annual General Meeting of the Irish Council for Civil Liberties in the Shelbourne Hotel. It was a workmanlike conference and the esoteric suggestions and pet schemes that characterised the exploratory meetings last year were almost totally absent. There was a high level of awareness of the problem facing the Council and a recognition of the difficulty maintaining and increasing the impetus of the first year.

Resolutions were passed demanding an impartial enquiry into all prison conditions, monitoring of emergency measures, calling for a Freedom of Information and Privacy Act and suggesting a campaign on the rights of refugees with particular reference to the Chileans.

Contributions to the debate on prisons recognised the futility of expecting a high level of rehabilitation from that form of treatment but recognised that reforms are important in the short term. It was pointed out that the Council had set up a sub-committee on prisons and that more detailed and specific recommendations would result from its deliberations.

It was pointed out that the Council had not engaged in any kind of litigation on civil liberties issues so far although such actions would serve the double purpose of bringing public notice to the work of the Council and achieving some of the objectives for which the body was set up.

Particular reference was made to laws on family planning and the



Mary Robinson (Chairperson), Sean Redmond (Sec.) and Brigid Wilkinson (Treasurer) at the A.G.M. of the I.C.C.L.

emergency legislation. Colm Kenny, proposing the resolution said that contrary to popular belief the Courts had not ruled on the validity of the declaration of an emergency.

The Union of Students in Ireland delegate Peter McEvoy proposing a resolution on the British Prevention of Terrorism Act as it affects the movement of Irish people said that it was, in fact, the duty of the Department of External Affairs to keep a close eye on the operation of the Act and to immediately make representations to the British Government in cases of harassment and unwarranted detention.

In the absence of such scrutiny by the Government the Council should undertake to carry out this important task in liaison with the NCCL. U.S.I. also proposed a resolution of concern with the action of the trustees of Maynooth College in dismissing two members of the

academic staff. It was suggested that this action highlighted the need that institutions financed from public funds be governed secularly with internal democracy and tolerance for diverse viewpoints.

The chairman of the ICCL Mr. Kadar Asmal resigned from the body on grounds of ill-health and appreciation of his work for the Council in its formative months was expressed. The incoming executive consisted of nine members from the outgoing executive drawn by lot in accordance with the Constitution and nine elected members. The full Executive Council now consists of:

David Brazil, Una Claffey, Arnaud Cras, Colm Kenny, Rev. Terence McCaughey, Sean Redmond, Sen. Mary Robinson, Brian Anderson, Robert Cochran, Joe Costello, David Kavanagh, Michael Kelly, Mairin de Burca, Patrick McCartan, John Maguire, Sen. Michael Mullen, Anthony Walshe and Naomi Wayne.

Prejudice against the Vocational sector of Education

The Irish Union of School Students, which is the representative body for Second Level students, last month published an impressive indictment of the

Vocational Schools under the title, "Discrimination against the Vocational Sector of Education".

The conclusions reached as the result of a survey make stark reading and demonstrate conclusively that the Vocational schools are the poor relation in almost every sense with regard to the rest of the secondary system. It shows also that the Irish technical schools lag far behind comparative schools anyplace else in Europe.

Published by the Research and Publications Committee, the function of the Report was a) The survey of educational, recreational, sporting and sanitary facilities available in Vocational schools at the present time; b) To examine the status and structure of Irish second-level Vocational Education, and c) To propose and recommend changes and reforms in accordance with the findings of the Report.

Although the authors do not quote

the size of the sample used to compile their statistics, at the same time they are justified in claiming that: "These statistics covering all aspects of school life (academic, leisure and sanitary) prove beyond doubt that the Vocational Student is in a considerably inferior position compared to those attending Secondary Schools. It is only necessary to examine these statistics in order to see that, as well as being disadvantaged with regard to available facilities, the Vocational Student is also at an educational disadvantage and that this situation has a strong and direct effect on the future occupation and social role of the student."

What is most striking in the Academic section of the Report is the almost total absence of Language Laboratories and the impoverished nature of the Vocational School Libraries.

The IUSS conclude, "That the students who chose to attend Vocational Schools (25.9% of the second level student population) have to put up with facilities which are, on average, of a much lower standard than those available in secondary schools is an indictment of both our whole educational system and especially the method of financial allocation within the system."

The fundamental recommendation of the Report is, "That the present system of Secondary, Vocational, Comprehensive and Community Schools be replaced by an integrated system of Comprehensive education under community control in which all subjects, in so far as this is possible, would be provided for the students' choice. Schools in this system would be open to all students, irrespective of class, sex or religion."

Ireland - NATO and the CIA

The approach in this series to the Central Intelligence Agency has been from the premise that the C.I.A. is now, or will shortly become active here. Inevitably because of the huge U.S. investment and because of the presence here also of the extraordinarily high quality and large quantity of valuable mineral deposits and substantial oil and gas off our coasts as well. It would be definitely in keeping with U.S. foreign policy to initiate or expand C.I.A. presence and activity in such situations.

The question of the C.I.A. therefore, is not just of passing interest to the Irish people, rather has it become a question of concrete positive concern to us and a matter therefore which should have the widest possible airing and discussion so that our people and all those groups or organisations concerned with the welfare of our people should be fully aware of the serious likelihood of a significant C.I.A. US military presence with obvious grave and detrimental consequences such a presence will mean to the Irish people.

Most readers will in all probability have noted the re-emergence of the anti-neutrality, pro membership of NATO (the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) lobby recently. The campaign was kicked off with a statement by the Fianna Fail ex-Minister for Defence, Michael Hilliard. The call by Hilliard was more than mere coincidence particularly when we realise that according to a NATO Council decree of December 1956 the intelligence service of the USA is the directive body for all intelligence services of the NATO countries and similar agreements are in force for all other military vassals of the USA.

history of Imperialism, but it could be said with a fair degree of certainty that it was in or around 1947/48 that it formally replaced Britain as the 'world's policeman' and with the connivance and active support of the British; we are speaking now about the post-war period starting with the request by the British that the US help in putting down the Communists in Greece in 1947/48.

While US imperialism goes back a long time before that period its

imperialists designs were given formal blessing then in the shape of what is now known as the Truman doctrine. The British did request US intervention in Greece but mourned and regretted the fact that they needed to do so.

It is a strange but true fact that many people assume wrongfully, that Secret Services of all nations act more or less on their own initiative without the sanction or knowledge of their Presidents, Premiers or Governments. Likewise the impression is given that the C.I.A. was acting on its own initiative when it carried out many of its activities in the last couple of decades, and that it did not have the official blessing of the United States Executive.

If the Irish people are to have a proper appreciation of the dangers of US intervention here, then it is vital that the carefully fostered illusion that the CIA acts without the permission and knowledge of the US Executive, is shown up for what it is — an illusion, a lie and a whitewash for US Imperialism. This we have attempted to demonstrate in previous articles.

Whitewash

A diabolical influence of US foreign policy as is evidenced by the tens of thousands who have been killed or maimed in Chile, Guatemala, Dominican Republic and Vietnam. The brutal, callous nature of United States imperialism has been emphasised in an attempt to bring home to the Irish people the stark reality and the consequences which will result from a formal US political/military pact or presence here.



● Demonstration at U.S. Embassy, Dublin, against attempted genocide in Vietnam.

That presence and such a joint "defence" pact cannot and will not benefit the Irish people. It is designed essentially to protect US capitalists interests and the interests of its capitalists allies in Europe. It is essentially exploitative economically and cares not at all for national culture, custom, rights or aspirations. It is the US need for economic dominance and control that is its primary and overriding imperative.

The United States for hundreds of thousands of Irish became the lesser of two evils until eventually not alone did it provide sustenance for those who worked there, but many thousands of them in time were able to help those left at home by sending their surplus dollars. This in turn meant that virtually thousands of homes in Ireland came to depend on the Dollars from America to maintain themselves.

Thus developed the myth of America of the land of plenty and generosity. The facts were somewhat different. Unfortunately those at home would never learn the appalling hardship endured by their relatives in order that they could send a few dollars home; those in the States were too proud or sensitive to enlighten them.

And so the myth endured. There are signs that people are becoming somewhat more enlightened as to the Irish American connection and perhaps they may not be as easily blinded to the real nature of United States capitalism today. Obviously the United States and those vested interests in Ireland who support the idea of our joining NATO will not talk of military commitments and the possibility of Ireland and Irish people becoming a definite target in any future global conflict between the US and whoever she chooses to define as her adversary.

Holocaust

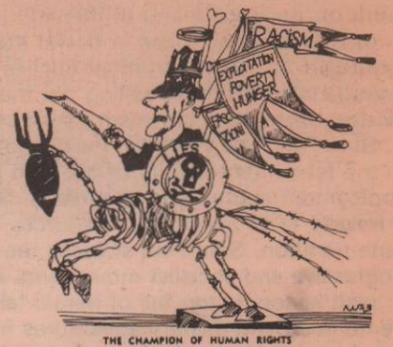
Military commitments and the danger of Ireland becoming engulfed in a nuclear holocaust or absorbing the first salvo of ICBM's because she is part of the US (NATO) defence system (or rather aggressive system) is a possibility which will be mentioned last, if at all, to the Irish people.

What will be advertised of course, will be the extra jobs created, not just in providing services for NATO (US) bases but also from the jobs created from the extra US investment which will automatically result from the increased confidence US investors will have in Ireland, because its investments will now be guaranteed and protected by the 'stability' the presence of NATO bases and forces imply.

The US sees itself as the vanguard in the war against Socialism. And as US National Security Managers see it, a country which is not within the orbit of US control or influence is a possible candidate for Soviet friendship. It cannot be allowed to drift in that direction since that is construed as being not in the interests of US global strategy.

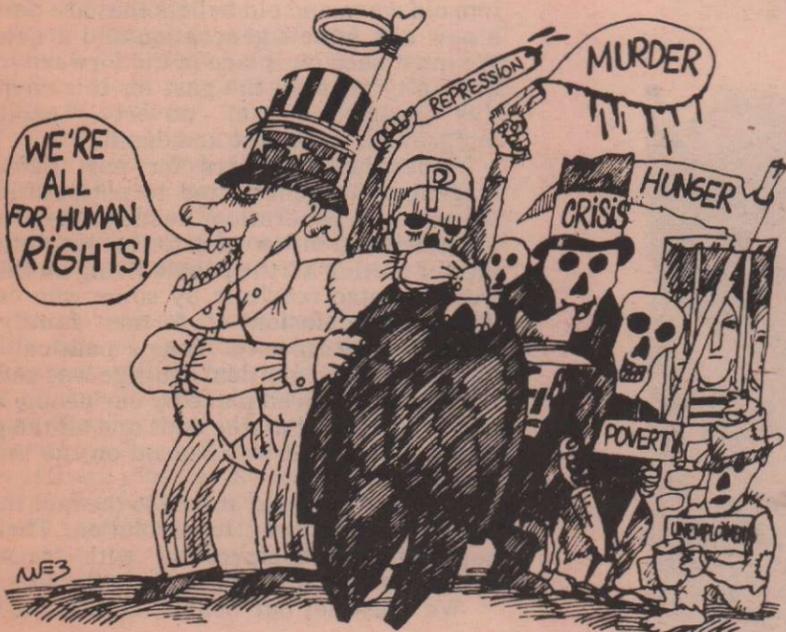
Automatically the USA reserves the right to intervene in that country's affairs to 'protect her interests'.

Apart altogether from the foregoing, it should be remembered that while the US might have no direct economic interest or control in a particular capitalist state, it has a definite interest in ensuring that as much of the globe as possible remains within the Capitalist system. That is in itself a very definite economic proposition of indirect benefit to US Capitalism. It ensures the preservation of X millions of consumers for either US or US related interests and conversely prevents the Socialist countries from adding X millions to the market for goods produced in the Communist or Socialist bloc.



That the US has replaced Britain as the self-appointed policeman of the world is a phrase often used but in the context of an examination of the activities of the C.I.A. is well worth repeating. The US foreign policy strategists see the US as the bulwark against the spread of socialism throughout the world. C.I.A. personnel are the stormtroopers in this battle. The world-wide struggle between the forces of social and economic progress and conservatism and reaction is sharpening.

We in Ireland are involved in this struggle. These articles on the C.I.A. hopefully have helped to identify a face of the US imperialist enemy which they prefer to keep hidden but which from the experience of other countries may well be the decisive factor in the success or failure of our struggle for economic, social and cultural freedom.



Bodenstown Commemoration '77



● Paddy Whelan, President of the Bricklayers' Union, laying a wreath at Wolfe Tone's monument.

New York Irish Honour Mathilda Tone

In New York the Annual Commemoration to the grave of Mathilda Tone also took place on June 19th. The oration was delivered by Kevin Coleman Joyce. A section of speech is carried below.

Comrades, today in Greenwood Cemetery, in the heart of Brooklyn we commemorate a brave Irish woman whose outstanding loyalty to her husband's ideals serves as an inspiration to us all.

But we also pay tribute to those same ideals proclaimed by Wolfe Tone and the United Irishman as exemplified by Sinn Fein The Workers' Party, in Ireland today.

One of the greatest lessons we can learn from studying the period of the United Irishmen is that they achieved a unity of urban and rural working class, right across religious barriers and held together by democratic, republican ideology. In our time, Sinn Fein continues to work towards this ideal, as in Northern Ireland where they have, for the past four years, conducted a broad based campaign against sectarianism under the slogan "SECTARIANISM KILLS WORKERS".

The United Irishmen drew their inspiration from the struggle of the American colonists to free themselves from despotic English rule. They also were influenced by the ideals of the French Revolution. They preached the necessity of uniting Catholic, Protestant and Dissenter in an effort to end the corrupt rule of the English in Ireland.

Tone was the first man in Irish history to seek support from the common people. He was the first man in Irish history to preach the twin creeds of democracy and republicanism. He was the first man in Irish history to speak for the people and to demand the establishment in Ireland of the Rights of Man.

In Ireland today those in power attempt to persuade the Irish people that, in this age, Republicanism is outmoded — that it no longer applies to the political and economic realities of our time. These same propagandists are busy selling out the economic resources of the Irish people, others assist in maintaining the divisive, corrupt sectarianism which contributes to ever growing misery and death in Northern Ireland.

Sinn Fein The Workers' Party, alone of all political parties in Ireland today insists, in the tradition of Tone, on the fundamental unity of the Irish people, on achieving the common goal of the working class — full employment and an end to poverty. Sinn Fein also demands the common ownership of Ireland by the people of Ireland — of her natural resources, the wealth of her seas, the produce of her soil. And also, firmly in the Tone tradition, Sinn Fein stresses the international aspects of the struggle and forges links with other progressive and socialist movements across the world.

Irish history is too full of heroic failures. Sinn Fein The Workers' Party has done with heroic failure — there are no dead end military adventures for them, no campaign of tit-for-tat killings the end result of which can only frustrate the aspirations of the Irish working class.

We members of the Irish Republican Clubs in the United States and Canada salute our comrades in the Republican Movement at home and we pledge our support for them in the continuing struggle for a democratic and socialist Ireland.

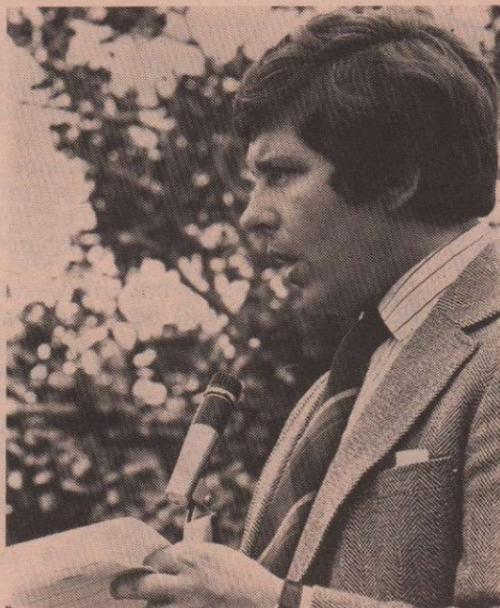
Chairman at Bodenstown was newly elected Councillor Seamus Lynch. In the course of his address he said, "The Wolfe Tone Commemoration should be a time when Republicans review the progress of the past year. During that period we have warded off attacks from both the Ultra-left and the Right. We have advanced our Party politically by campaigning strenuously both in the Northern Local Government Elections and in the Dail Elections in the South."

"We are the only Party organised on a 32 County basis, having public representatives and speaking with the authentic voice of the Irish working class," he said.

"We are vitally concerned to find a democratic solution to the violence in the North and we again demand of the British Government that they provide a Bill of Rights to enable real politics to begin. We call for an end to the vacuum which is dominated by both British militarism and para-military terror."

Cllr. Lynch stressed that the enemy of the Irish people was Anglo-American imperialism which recognised no Border in their exploitation of the vast mineral, oil and gas resources which rightfully belonged to the Irish people.

Concluding his remarks Lynch asked for an intensive educational drive among the working class to demonstrate the extent of both foreign and native exploitation.



"We are Wolfe Tone's successors and we have a better understanding of his motives in our Party today than could be said of any movement at any time since the first generation of Irish Republicans. Those who usurp the name Republican — those who reject our revolutionary Party — blaspheme against the name Republican because they are sectarian and they seek to put obstacles in the way of the forward march of humanity.

"This century is one of the great revolutionary centuries. Mankind is again breaking the old mould which has shaped human destiny for the past two centuries. We are in the tradition of Tone and we are in the best tradition of human enlightenment when we take our place in this forward march."

This quotation from the oration delivered by Eamonn Smullen at the Annual Wolfe Tone Commemoration on Sunday, June 19, attended by almost 3,000, stresses both the modern and traditional dimensions of Republicanism.

Other parts of his speech are carried below with key points on the right.

Wolfe Tone, whom we honour here today was the founding father of Irish Republicanism. He set Ireland on a new course in his own day and age and found inspiration for this new course outside Ireland as well as inside Ireland.

The full sweep and grandeur of his political vision was such that even now many who profess to honour him do not recognise the full measure of his achievement nor would they subscribe to it if they did.

At a time when the population of this country was divided — one half to a limited extent enjoying the fruits of, in historical terms, a recent conquest — and the other half victims of that conquest, he put forward the revolutionary proposition of unity.

"We wish that all our animosities were buried with the bones of our ancestors" — he made that statement his guiding principle; by this principle he measured his every political word and action.

In Tone's day mankind started to break the historical mould which had shaped the destinies of the people of Europe for centuries. Many feared to depart from the social order, and from the customs and traditions, which had become sacred to them because they represented a well understood old way of ordering life. They saw nothing but dangers and troubles for mankind when its more positive and enlightened sections pushed all out on a sea that was strange and badly charted.

Some continued to cling to this or that aspect of things, old and familiar, when the evidence was clear that the social order that had given birth to, and which nourished certain beliefs and practices, was forever damned by the forward march of the human race.

It is to Wolfe Tone's eternal credit and it is to the eternal credit of the United Irishmen, that they embraced the new ideas with fierce loyalty and passion. They defended the new ideas and the new world against the fearful, the conservative and the treacherous of their day.

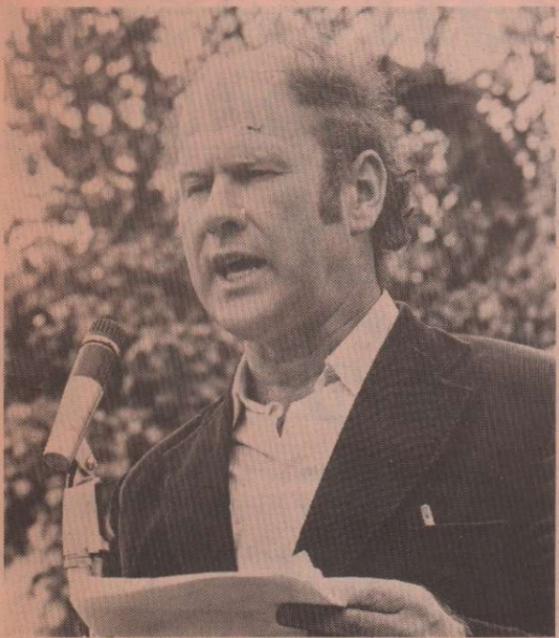
Our self-critical examination during the past few years has been difficult and expensive. It has broken old friendships as we continued to press forward in defiance of those who say every now and again — "this far and no further".

We have paid a very high price along the way in our search for truth. Some of our members — our comrades — have died by Irish hands because they refused to be pushed back into old ways and old beliefs that are damned by a new age, a new generation and a new world. We must keep our place in the forward march of humanity because the past for this country, for this people, meant poverty, exploitation, emigration, ignorance and death.

Tone shed no tears for past defeats and tragedies, he genuflected to no tradition older than his own generation; he faced the future with undivided attention and fierce resolution. The idea of uniting all the people living on this island was accepted fearfully by some who carried a dream or delusion of former family glory, honour or prosperity. Tone's political wisdom and unmatched political courage was set forever in a most honoured place by our people when he declared against all the odds and all the practice of his time: "We will depend on the men of no property".

We must steel our minds to the fact that there is no easy highroad to revolution. There is no possibility of compromise with conservative forces nor with their ideas along the way.

We must set our hearts, our minds and our



strength on the future with the tenacity and the honesty of Tone, our greatest revolutionary.

Irish society is again changing and questioning its traditional values as it changes. We accept the changes now taking place in Irish society with enthusiasm and excitement. We welcome with all our hearts the growing numbers and power of the Irish working class now being increasingly employed in larger and larger units.

We welcome with enthusiasm and excitement the predominantly young labour force free of the old hatreds and divisions of the civil war and free of many of the tribal taboos and traditional religious and social bigotries.

The new work-force differs from all previous Irish work-forces — it is larger; it is growing; it is being concentrated in larger and larger numbers. It depends on wages and on wages alone for its livelihood. The creation of this new work-force is, without doubt, the most revolutionary development in our long history.

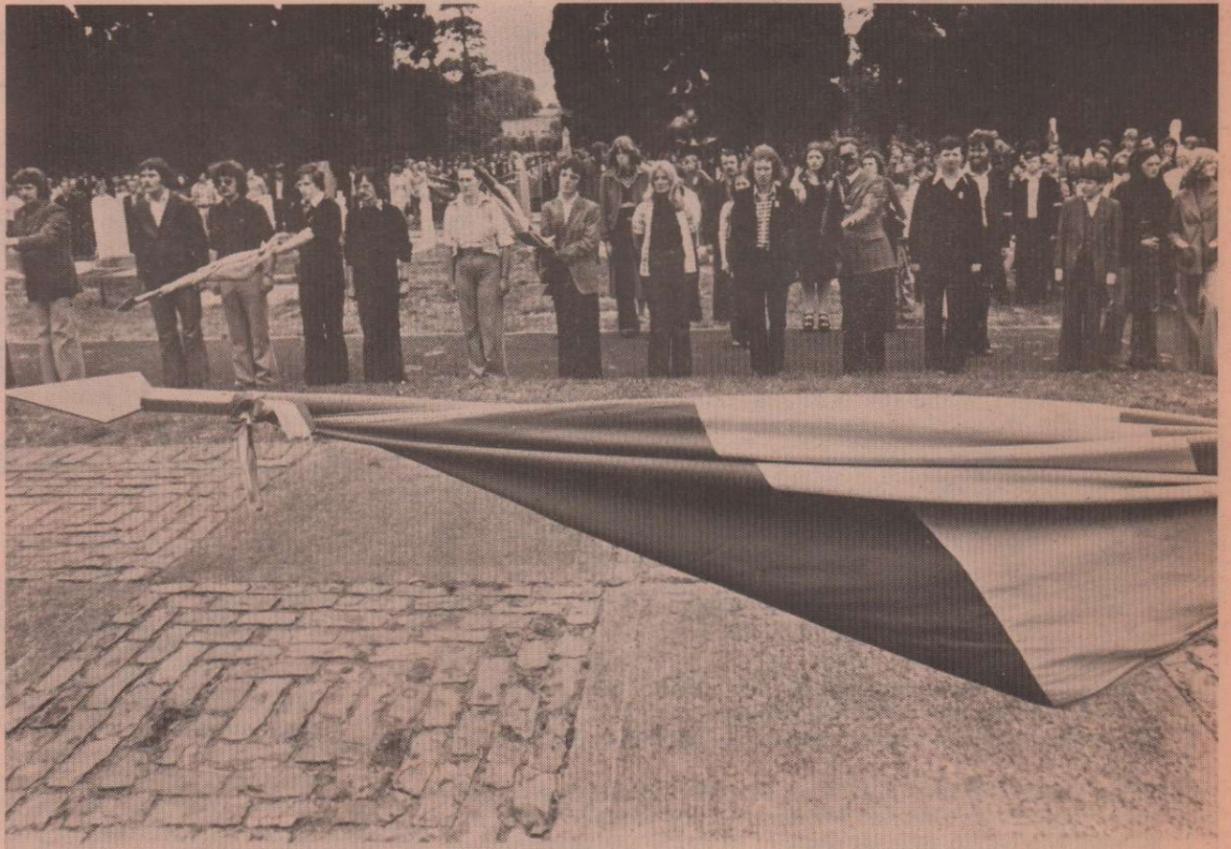
People of conservative outlook — some of them people who do not profess a conservative political faith — fear this new development. They look back to some "better time" and wish to turn back life and time. They see the new generation of property-less wage-earners as gathering dark storm-clouds and they fear a deluge. We rejoice in the certainty of the coming deluge; we know that it brings new life and new growth; we know that Irish society badly needs a deluge.

We, today, have our eyes fixed firmly on the future; we reject all political ideas and relics that are not of practical political use. We reject attempts to marry the slogans from past historical circumstances to present-day political and economic needs — revolutionary needs. We are Irish revolutionaries of our own day and age and we proclaim loudly and clearly the vital revolutionary need of this day and age — industrialise, industrialise, industrialise.

We call for big, modern, efficient industry; we want as many power units available to Irish workers hands as the worker has in the United States, in Japan, in West Germany and in the Soviet Union. Our Party has told the Irish people that traditional Irish industry produces commodities which are expensive and of poor quality — commodities which will not find buyers in any market place other than a protected home market.

We reject the sweat-shops and the casual labour which has been, and still is in many places, the most unpleasant face of Irish capitalism. We will put an end to a situation in Ireland where the appearance of a foreman on a shop floor or a building site on a certain day of the week means the sack for someone and all wait to see where the blow will fall. This is long drawn out tormenting of honest, exploited people in the interest of profit — often mean, petty profit.

Our revolutionary party cuts through this mean life full of constant anxiety and petty tyranny; a way of life which puts the meal on the table at the mercy perhaps of an irresponsible individual. Employment in company of hundreds or thousands of other workers means not only the creation of more jobs but the creation of working class power. Working class power — the strength of numbers employed in large modern plants — puts an end to many of the insecurities, uncertainties and petty tyrannies even under capitalism.



● We are, without a shadow of doubt, the main working class party in Ireland. In numbers, organisation, ideological clarity and discipline we have laboured to produce a party capable of leading the Irish working class to power and to victory.

● Our country has been cursed by the existence of class and section which "enforced its rights with a rod of iron and renounced its responsibilities with a front of brass". Our party does not, will not and cannot support such people. This principle applies with particular force to the use in the public interest of our great natural resource in land.

● "The land for the people was once regarded as a revolutionary slogan in Ireland. Some people interpret that slogan to mean "the land for some of the people". There is no place for a doctrine of a divine right to property in the philosophy of our movement. There is no logical argument which can put an individual "right" against the general public interest. Anyone who claims that an individual right should take precedence over public well-being is not presenting reasoned argument but quite clearly making a statement in support of vested interest.

● We say that it is a crime to have 90% of Irish agricultural land under grass when at the same time the urban need for vegetables is met by supplies from Israel, Texas, the Canaries, Cyprus, the Channel Islands and God knows what other far-away field.

● Giant American Corporations are being allowed to carry out a robbery of this country on a scale never imagined by Strongbow or Cromwell and the Irish capitalists are helping them in this robbery. We reject with indignation the suggestion that Irish capitalism can be harnessed in any way to the cause of winning economic justice for Ireland.

● In the North our party policy has been justified by the passing of time. We, from the very start of the present difficulties said that full democratic rights was the issue in the North. We said that decent housing for all the people was the issue in the North. We said that jobs for all the people was the issue in the North. We are practical revolutionaries and we do not bay at the moon. People whose activities divide the working class are not revolutionaries, are not anti-imperialists, no matter how extreme their actions or their expressions.

● The State company is now being recognised in progressive circles throughout the world as the best shield for an underdeveloped economy against the activities of large predatory corporations. Our party recognises the importance of the State company and say that it is on the basis of our State companies that Ireland should be industrialised.

● It is important to stress the handicaps we faced in the recent elections in order to measure the degree of our success. Some of our people will, no doubt, be disappointed that our success was not greater. We have established our credentials as a working class party and the working class — the growing force in Irish society — will be doubly disillusioned when Fianna Fail fails to solve the all important questions of employment and cheap food.

● We have emerged a well-tempered instrument to help revolutionary change in Ireland. We are sometimes told that we lack charity when we speak of the opinions of others of those who have not experienced the trials that we have endured. It is indeed sometimes difficult not to be impatient with people who spend more time inventing terms of abuse for aspects of our policies than they do in studying the policies.



Sinn Féin
The Workers' Party

**PEACE,
WORK
& CLASS
POLITICS**

"Where ever there is conflict between the masses and the interests of the ruling few, between capital and the value of human life, the Republican Movement will take its stand with the people, to educate, organise, agitate and fight so that the people may go forward in dignity and consciousness to the final success . . . ownership of their resources, control of their destinies." (Liam Mc Millen Bodestown, 1973)

For further information write to:
Sinn Féin Headquarters, 30 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1.
or to one of the following addresses.
Ballina: P. Kilcullen, Kilmore.
Belfast: Republican Club, 40 Cyprus Street, Belfast 12.
Bray: D. Tobin, 77 O'Byrne Road.
Cork: Thomas Ashe Hall, Fr. Matthew Quay.
Drogheda: Forrester's Hall, North Quay.
Kerry: Breandan Mac Gearailt, Ballyferriter.
Co. Kilkenny: The Secretary, Sinn Féin The Workers' Party Office
Airmount, Slieverue.
Limerick: F. Reynolds, c/o 19 New Road, Killeely.
Newry: 1 Trevor Hill.
Strabane: Ivan Barr, 224 Ballcolman Estate.
Waterford: Daithi Breathnach, 30 Ard Mhuire, Ferrybank.
Britain: Clann na hEireann, 173/175 Lozells Road, Lozells,
Birmingham 19.
Italy: Ufficio Stampa Irlanda Libera, Via Della Dogana
Vecchia 5, Roma.
USA & Canada: Irish Republican Clubs, 160 5th Avenue
(Rm. 604) NEW YORK 10010, U.S.A.
Australia/New Zealand: John McGee, 6 Railway Road,
Marayong, Sydney 2148, N.S.W.

JOIN SINN FEIN — THE WORKERS' PARTY.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Council roundup

News from round the councils naturally focuses on the North this month following on the recent elections. Frank McElroy chalks up another first for the Republican Clubs in Co. Tyrone. Narrowly defeated for the Chairmanship of Omagh Council, there was only one vote in it, Frank was elected as vice-chairman. He is the first Republican to hold an official position in the new Northern Council chambers.

Belfast's three Councillors have been extremely active inside and outside the City Hall. New man Seamus Lynch attended a one day conference on Young People in Northern Ireland organised by Lord Melchett. There were four themes for the day — Economic and Social Problems, Education, Courts and Prisons and Voluntary Bodies and Youth.

Melchett who has £2 million to spend in helping to deal with youth problems has been invited by Councillor Lynch to visit the North Belfast district to study the problems at first hand.

In that constituency Lynch has also been active on the threat to working class areas from the proposed roads programme. Two highly successful pickets were set up in the Lower Falls and North Queen Street in which local residents demonstrated their opposition to putting lorries before houses.

An important feature of this campaign is that Cllr. Lynch has been elected to the Town Planning Committee. Cllr. Bernie McDonagh will also be able to make his voice heard as he sits on the Leisure Centres Committee. Likewise Jim Sullivan from the Community Services.

The three Belfast Councillors headed the first delegation of the Clubs to meet Under Secretary of State Ray Carter on June 21. They were joined by Belfast Clubs' Chairman Brian Brennan, PRO Mary McMahan and Sth. Antrim Chairman Kevin Smith.

At this initial meeting, others are envisaged, the Clubs raised a variety of issues ranging from housing redevelopment to the controversial Poleglass-Legmore scheme. They received assurances that the latter project will continue in spite of Unionist pressures. A promise which should mean 3,000 jobs in the area.



● Will Dublin Housing Action demonstrations of the early '70s be repeated in Belfast?

It is likely that the present Divis Flats tenants will take up the bulk of the new housing in Poleglass. An interesting footnote by the way is the fact that the Republican Clubs proposals on the demolition of the Divis Flats complex, once considered so radical, have now been accepted as essential to the future development of the area.

The Clubs delegation stated that they saw the resolution of the housing crisis in the development of an expanded Direct Labour Organisation. Mr. Carter promised to see to what extent this could be achieved through the medium of Enterprise Ulster.

On the same issue the Clubs pressed for the extension of industrialised building but it would seem that the Under Secretary would prefer to see the outcome of the present scheme in the Cullingtree Road, Belfast. Concern was also expressed by the delegation as to maintaining a proper balance between rehabilitated housing and new homes.

A surprising footnote to the Belfast Council elections centres around Councillor Jim Sullivan. It is reported that a failed SDLP candidate Tom Lappin has issued a petition against Sullivan alleging "corrupt election practices". Lappin however has disclaimed any responsibility for the petition which was made in his name.

The Clubs have placed the matter in the hands of legal Counsel but the full story is unlikely to be resolved until next month.

Trade Union Congress



● John Carroll, Vice-President, I.T.G.W.U.

The mood of the delegates to the Annual Conference of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions was undoubtedly militant as was reflected in the narrow vote which rejected the motion to end all future National Wages Agreements. The tone of angry discontent of the Trade Unionists with the past Government and their warnings to Fianna Fail was reflected in the speeches of the President Mr. John Mulhall and by John F. Carroll, vice-president of the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union.

Carroll stated that under no circumstances could the Trade Union organisation commit itself to accepting a 5% annual ceiling on wage increases.

"First of all no union is mandated to approach wage negotiations on that basis. More important than that, no union — and certainly not the Irish Congress of Trade Unions — can at this point in time gaze into a crystal ball and say what the state of the economy is going to be over the next three years, even with a subscription to a moderate wage increase programme."

"I think the time is now opportune for the Trade Union Movement and the incoming government and the employers to determine whether or not a national programme for economic development will be evolved."

"If it is, then obviously the resources of the nation will now have to be outlined. The possible development in the resources area over the next few years will have to be 'guesstimated'."

Negotiations

"Priorities in respect of the cost of jobs and in the provision of social benefits will have to be determined. And against that backdrop, policy on wage increases may possibly be negotiated. But there is no way such a policy can be determined now," he said.

A sizeable number of delegates, however were in no mood to listen to a soft line on wage negotiations. And a motion calling on the ICTU National Executive not to take part in any future national wage agreement was defeated by the slender majority of 31. (163 for and 194 against.)

But while the question of the rate for the job must certainly occupy the attention of all Trade Union officials

in militant mood at Limerick

and members, the tone of the Conference was set by President John Mulhall.

Mr. Mulhall stated quite categorically that good relations between the incoming Government and the Trade Unions would depend largely on the degree of effort put into solving the country's chronic unemployment situation.

Equally he ruled out another Wage Agreement which did not take account of drastic changes in price levels as had occurred over the past four years.

Mr. Mulhall demanded that "full employment be made the first priority of National policy. In support of this objective, we shall ask them to carry through the establishment of a National Development Council to use the resources at the disposal of the State to engage directly in job creation and the development of new areas of industrial expansion."

In-depth

"I would be very pleased if the Government joined us in in-depth discussions on this subject in the near future," he said. Conference also passed a number of resolutions calling for the introduction of a fully comprehensive National Health Service. Mr. Matt Merrigan attacked the private consultants whom he claimed were the only people standing in the way of free hospital care being extended. "We ought to take the consultants by the scruff of the neck and tell them that trade unionists will refuse to give them services for their private patients in public hospitals unless they remove their embargo on the provision of free health services for all," stated Mr. Merrigan.

Other speakers stressed the need to end the discrimination which existed between manual and non-manual workers in relation to the Health service.

The ex-Minister for Labour in his last speech to the Congress announced the establishment of the Employment Equality exchange. Mr. O'Leary said that it would be concerned with the ending of discrimination against women.

The agency would also be responsible for monitoring the working of the Equality Employment Act and Equal Pay legislation.

KEEP THESE DATES FREE!

60th Anniversary of the October Revolution

- Dublin: Thursday, 27th October — Showing of Eisenstein's great classic OCTOBER.
- Belfast: Friday, 28th October — Showing of Eisenstein's great classic OCTOBER.
- Belfast: Saturday, 29th October — Commemoration Dinner & Social.
- Dublin: Sunday, 30th October — Commemoration Dinner & Social.

Further details from:
International Affairs Bureau,
Sinn Fein The Workers' Party.



Athru Rialtais! ce'n t-athru?

Plus c'a change...

CRAC

Failte roimh

- Lucht polaitiochta
- Lucht
- Neamh-polaitiochta
- Sibhse le creidimh
- Sibhse gan creidimh
- Daoine saibhir
- Seanchai
- Lucht casta ceoil
- Fili agus amhranai

- Ceol
- Rinncce
- Amranaiocht
- Caint

14u—21u Lunasa
Handsworth Birmingham
Eagraithe ag
Clann na h-Eireann

Imeasc moran gealluinti eile a thug Fianna Fail i rith an toghachain duirt siad go mbunofadh siad — san Udaras Gaeltachta taobh istigh de bhliain. Ce thogfadh geall ar an gealluint sin? Bhi siad iontach curamach ins an mheid nar innis siad duinn ar choir ar bith cen cineal Udaras a bhi i gceist acu.

Choir a bheith nar dhuirt Bobby Molloy in agallamh le Radio na Gaeltachta cupla mi o shoin go mbeadh Fianna Fail agus e fein go hairithe i bhfabhar Udaras daonfhlaiteach don Ghaeltacht le cumhachtaí leathan aige.

Ta fhios againn go raibh suil chraosach ag Bobby choir ar votai Chonnemara ag an am agus ta fhios againn fosta nar thacht an breag ariamh e ach niorbh mhiste a chuid focla fein a chuir i gcuimhne do anois.

Bhi Tom O Donnell ar ndoighe gabhail a chuir Udaras ar fail fosta gan mhoill direach mar bhi le ceithre bliana anuas. Ni raibh fhios ag duine beo cen saghas Udaras a bhi i gceist ag an duine bocht seo



Bobby Molloy

agus lena cheart a thabhairt do ni doighe go raibh fhios aige fein. Eisean slanaithoir amhain a thug muintear na Gaeltachta cul a mboise do. Ba ghnathach leis na nuachtain buaiteoir an Iarthar do Fhine Gael a thabhairt air ach is bocht a bhuaidh se suiochain do fein.

Is iomai sin geall a thug an Domhnallach ua agus e ag sodar thart ar na Gaeltachtaí le ceithre bliana anuas ach ba daor a cheannaigh Fine Gael an geall a thog siad ar a chuid gealluinti ag deireadh an lae.

Taobh amuig de cheist an Udaras ni raibh moran le radh ag an da phriomh phairti faoi cheist na Gaeilge agus na Gaeltachta ach amhain an sean dilin, tirim, caite, doighte a bhi a spalpadh ariomh acu in rith na blianta fada a faisceadh an beatha as na Gaeltachtaí.

Polasai

Siad John Kelly agus Jim Tunney na h-Ard Easpail agus na priomh Udarasai (ma mhaitheann sibh an focal sin duinn) ar an cheist seo sa Rialtas a d'imigh agus an Rialtas ata ag teacht agus ta a dtuairmíocht go caol ar an cheist le dha sgadan sgeithe sa teorann farraige nach bhfuil ann agus lan go cosuil le cheile.

Ni raibh faic le radh ag Pairti an Lucht Oibre ar an cheist mar nach bhfuil, nach raibh, agus nach mbeidh polasai go deo acu ar an teanga agus ar an Gaeltacht.

Dfheadfai a radh nach bhfuil polasai acu ar rud ar bith feasta ach amhain greim daingean a choinneal ar iorball an leine gorm agus cuir suas leis an boinneach a thig amach as faoi an iorball ceanna.

Agus goide fen fíor Ghael, fíor Ghaelach, fíor Phoblachtanach, fíor Chaitliceach, fíor naisiuntach ud

Niall Bleine. Ta an Gaeltacht is mo sa tir i nDail cheantar s'aige suid ach nior chuir se oiread agus posteir Gaeilge in airde. Chuaigh se ar Radio na Gaeltachta agus labhair se ar feadh leathuair a chloig le muintear na Gaeltachta i mBearla. Chaill creatur bocht a phost de bharr an eachtra aerach sin.

Chuaigh dream a dtugtar Tionol ortha thart ar iomathoiri i mBaile Atha Cliath le ceistneoir agus bhi na freagrai o lion mor acu baidhiul, an gcreidfea. Dar le Tionol go bhfuil an dul chun cinn deanta acu.

Se firinne an sceil no go bhfuil fear i bpriosun i lathair siocar cuir in aghaidh stait scannallach na Gaeilge ar an telefis. Ta fear eile ag togail cas costasach san Ard Chuir ag iarrai an bun cheart le casanna cuirte a bheith i nGaeilge sa Ghaeltacht. Ta gach bac curtha ar scoileanna lan Ghaelacha ag Roinn an Oideachas. Ta an Ghaeltacht ag fail bhais go foill agus gan cumhacht ag Pobal na Gaeltachta rud ar bith a dheanamh faoi. Ca h-uair a thiocfaidh an t-athru.



Neil Blaney

Ceannairi nua ar Lucht oibre agus F. Gael

Thainig athru nach iontach ar chursai polaitiochta na 26 Condaethe tar eis an toghchain. D'eirigh dha cheannairi Fhine Gael agus an Lucht Oibre as a gceannaireacht. Is docha nach ndeanfaidh cibe athru a

thiocfas puinn duifir do pholaitiocht an dha Phairti.

D'reir cosulachta ta triur san iomaiocht i gcoir ceannaireacht an Lucht Oibre, Frank Cluskey, Michael O Laoghaire agus Jimmy Tully. I gcas Fine Gael ni amharcann bunus daoine thar Gearoid Mac Gearailt ach ar an eite eile ta John Kelly a bhi ag moladh da Phairti ar na mallaibh thiontu ar pholasai De Valera i gcursai eachnomaiochta. Comh maith leis an smaointiu saoiuile seo duirt se gur choir d'Fhine Gael theacht nios deise do Ghluaiseacht na Gaeilge.

Deirtear ag an am ceanna nach bhfuil dushraith an Phairti (Fine Gael) tughtha do Mac Gearailt; ta se ro-intleachtuil do mhuintir na tuaithe, cnamh druime Fhine Gael. Ar an adhbhar sin ta seans go gceapfar ceannaire sealadach go dti go sochraionn an Pairti sios tar eis an toghchain.

I measc na fadhbanna ata le reiteach ag Lucht Oibre, ta ceist ceannaireachta acu fosda. Dar le furmhor scriobhnoiri polaiticiula gur an fear a bhfuil an seans is fearr aige na Frank Cluskey. Ni docha go nglacfaidh na baill len a leithid Tully tar eis teipeadh ar a "Tullymander."

Ach seachas ceist na ceannaireachta is eigin do Pairti an Lucht Oibre sochru anois ce acu an bhfuil siad dhul a bheith na na freasura ni amhain d'Fhianna Fail ach d'Fhine Gael comhmaith. Duine ar bith a chaith seal a ple na torthai le "dushraith" Lucht Oibre is cinnte gur chuala se go leor a radh nach bhfeadfadh glacadh le comhrialtas acoidhche go deo.

Pe athru a nitear i Lucht Oibre is eigin do Sinn Fein Pairti na n-Oibri chinntiu anois go mbeidh siad san iomaiocht i go leor dail-cheanntair le cruthu gur iad an t-eite cle feasta.



Caoineadh Airt Ui Laoire

Scannán déanta ag Cine Gael ar son Sinn Féin

Gach eolas ó Eamon Smullen c/o 30 Plás Gardnar Baile Atha Cliath 1

Resources campaign

Sinn Fein The Workers' Party are responsible for the making of another film in Ireland. The making of a film in Ireland by Irish people on matters concerning this country is a rare event. Sinn Fein The Workers' Party have been responsible for two films in little over two years.

The Government's attitude to Irish film-making is to equip Ardmore at Government expense and then hope that someone — preferably one of the British or American giants of the film industry — comes along to make a film there.

The Sinn Fein The Workers' Party feature film *Caoineadh Airt Uí Laoire* will be shown, with the few Irish films the country has produced, in the Irish Film Theatre during the second part of July.

The new film made by the party will have its first public showing, in the South, on July 29th at Liberty Hall. It is a documentary film, in colour, on the robbery of Ireland's natural resources and it runs for 35 minutes.

The difference between the making of the film "Going, Going, Gone," and C.A.U.I.L. is the fact that the new film is made in the party's Cinema Workshop. This is a unique development in Ireland and is certainly evidence of broad nature and growing technical ability of our party.

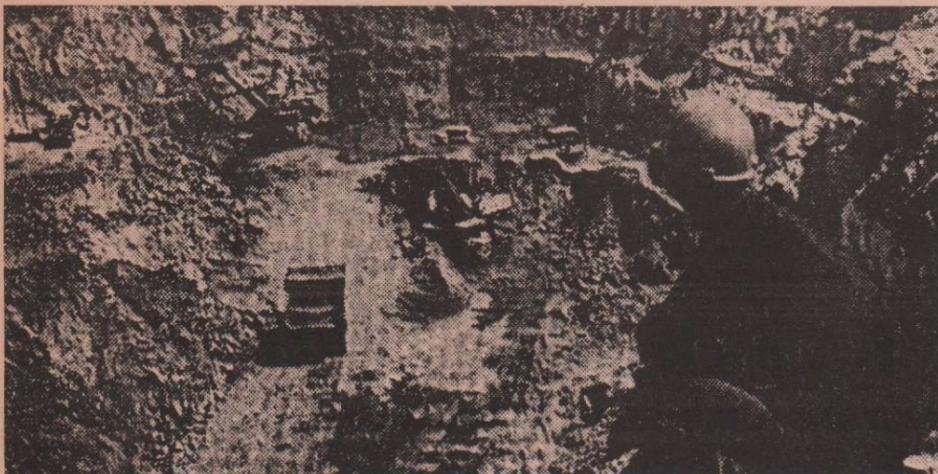
Development

"Going, Going, Gone" traces the development of Irish mining from early times to the present and kills the carefully fostered story that it is necessary to bring in giant American mining companies in order to "find" our rich natural resources. The film shows early and nineteenth century mining sites — Avoca, The Gap of Wicklow and the nineteenth century smelter at Carrickmines.

All that this country has gained from our "mining industry" is shown by shots of huge holes in the ground slowly filling with water.

Do you know who owns the land and draws royalties from our latest mine in Sligo? See the film and you may be surprised. You will also see the faces of those who sell out our natural resources — the establishment political parties — the owners of this and that.

The few people who have seen our latest film were favourably impressed by it. To make a film on natural resources means using material which is by its nature "dull". The film is attractive and easy to watch; this is an achievement.

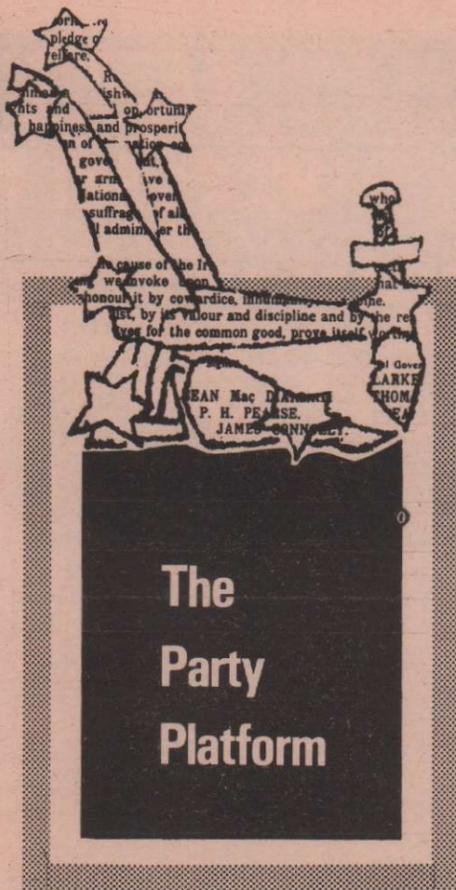


● Gortdrum Mine, Co. Tipperary.

MEDICAL SERVICE REPORT

The Report of the General Medical Services, published June 24, confirms many of the points made in the booklet by Dr. John McManus, spokesman on Health and Social Welfare for Sinn Fein The Workers' Party. "Health Care: the case for socialist medical care" was published recently by Repsol.

The main point made by John McManus in this pamphlet is that Ireland can only operate a partial and defective medical service for the public at a cost of 6.1% of our G.N.P. while England provides a fully comprehensive service for an expenditure of 5.8% G.N.P.



Abolition of 11+ welcomed

Republican Clubs spokesman on Education and Chairman of S. Antrim Executive of Republican Clubs, Kevin Smyth, has welcomed the abolition of the 11 plus and the introduction of comprehensive education.

"While Lord Melchett's announcement this morning would appear to be more a declaration of intent than a positive directive to ensure equality of educational opportunity. Nevertheless that children have now been rid of the scourge of the 11 plus should remove one of the biggest barriers to the ideal of equality as well as removing an intolerable burden from both parents and children. The Government's continued failure to make any mention of integrated schooling, and apparent passing of the buck into the hands of Area Boards, in many respects makes nonsense of the comprehensive ideal. This issue was largely ignored by the Cowan Report. The Republican Clubs will be demanding that neither the Area Boards nor any of the three working parties to be established to examine the comprehensive options be allowed to by-pass this crucial aspect of education.

"In a situation where schooling for too many of our children is increasingly becoming a prelude to a life-time of unemployment it is essential that comprehensive

"S.D.L.P. power-sharing policies sectarian..."

Republican Clubs Councillor Jim Sullivan, declared that SDLP spokesmen's efforts to portray themselves as a non-sectarian party flew in the face of their declared stand on devolved government.

"Quite clearly the SDLP care not for the basic principles of democratic government. Their stubborn insistence on power-sharing aside from any guarantees of civil liberties, proves their determination to institutionalise sectarian politics in the community. The corrupt, discriminatory practises of the orange junta cannot be ended by merely changing from single-party junta to multiple-party junta.

"Spending so much time of late in attempting to dis-associate themselves from a 'Catholic label' the SDLP have, in the same breath, tried to woo support from this section of the community for

the R.U.C. If Mr. Fitt is not referring to Catholics when he speaks about 'the minority community' perhaps either he, Mr. Haughey or Mr. Devlin could clarify exactly what minority they mean?

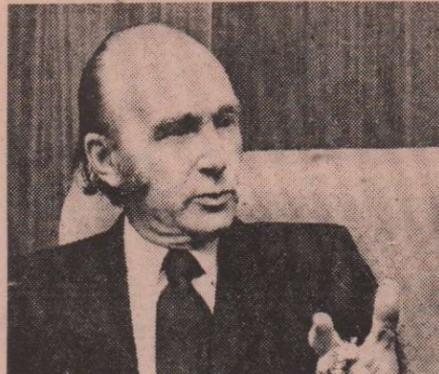
"Power-sharing is the policy around which all other SDLP policies rotate. Can Mr. Haughey deny that power-sharing, as detailed by his party, means anything other than sectarian power-sharing? To attempt to link, as Mr. Haughey does, the SDLP with the anti-sectarian working-class politics of Wolfe Tone, is a sordid gesture at further dis-service to the Republican philosophy.

"That philosophy, based as it is, on the concept of placing the men of no property in control of this country is totally alien to Social Democrats and their support for the national bourgeoisie.

"Sectarianism is no less despicable, not less an enemy of working people and their objectives just because it is non-violent. Indeed, the sectarian para-militaries have been bred by the well-considered political utterances of those who dis-associate themselves from violent deeds only when such deeds do not serve their specific ends.

"The only unit that is meaningful in this country today is that of working people. That is the only unity that can dis-arm the para-militaries and rid the community of the personally motivated power-hungry politicians that seek to pick up the crumbs from Westminster. But the SDLP seek to delay that progress by deliberately avoiding the central political issue today, that of democracy for all citizens. They realise that to insist on democratic standards before any talk of devolved government would be to deny them partnership and power-sharing. As their recent out-burst over the election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Dungannon Council and the elections of committees in Belfast City Council proves, the SDLP concept of power-sharing is that power-sharing only happens when they agree to distribute the spoils, when they are a party to it.

"I am in no doubt that their attempt to un-seat me in F Area is but a squalid effort to cover up the very serious personality split in their own camp. I was elected on the anti-sectarian policies of the Republican Clubs and a conscious class vote. I will not surrender that progressive stand for the community, to quieten the yellings of the SDLP sectarian dogs at my heel."



● Dr. Hillery

The following message of protest was sent last month to the 26 Co. President, Dr. Patrick Hillery, by the International Affairs Bureau of Sinn Fein The Workers' Party.

"Sinn Fein The Workers' Party is concerned by reports that you are meeting a delegation from Argentinian Navy at present on a visit to Dublin. Amnesty International, a prestigious group dedicated to International human rights, have claimed to have 'overwhelming evidence that many innocents have been imprisoned without trial and have been tortured and killed in Argentina'. They have listed the names

President Hillery criticised for receiving Argentinians

and the dates of the disappearance of 440 people.

"The very Navy whose representatives you are meeting have established a torture centre in Buenos Aires and in this centre they have been responsible for the torture of many innocent citizens including a number of Catholic Priests. The Fermoy born priest — Fr. Patrick Rice was detained, tortured and deported last December by the junta.

"Sinn Fein The Workers' Party demands that no representative of this oppressive regime should be welcomed in Ireland until full human rights and democracy are restored in Argentina."



Sightseers inspecting the bullet-spattered train engine following the release of the hostages by Dutch troops.

The United WORLD

Dutch must face reality of South Moluccan problem

NAMIBIA FUND-RAISING IN IRELAND

The fund to purchase Medical Kits for the South West African Peoples Organisation (S.W.A.P.O.) of Namibia which was launched in last month's UNITED IRISHMAN has received a very good response. The Fund, sponsored by the International Affairs Bureau of Sinn Fein The Workers' Party has to-date collected over £100 and many areas of the country and some people overseas have written to us asking for the special Collection Card printed by the International Affairs to help with the fundraising project.

Donations received during May included the following: Drimnagh, Dublin, Branch of the Irish Democratic Youth Movement: £1.50; Connie Green Branch of Clann na hEireann, Bradford, England: £3.50; Carrickmacross Cumann of Sinn Fein The Workers' Party: 2.00; Lisnaskea, Co. Fermanagh Republican Club: £7.80; Peter Jordan, Bristol, England £1.00; Clann na hEireann, Leeds, England £10.00; James McKeown, Monaghan, £4.00; Kitty & Rose Hickey, Co. Louth £5.00; Irish Democratic Youth Movement, Belfast £5.00; John Collins Branch of Clann na hEireann, Liverpool, England £4.00; Martin O'Leary Cumann of Sinn Fein The Workers' Party, Raheny/Howth, Dublin .50p; and S. Corcoran, Offaly, £3.20.

Readers of "The United Irishman" wishing to help with the S.W.A.P.O. Medical Kits fund-raising should write to the International Affairs Bureau, Sinn Fein The Workers' Party, 30 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1 for a collection card.

In December 1975 when a group of South Moluccan gunmen burst their way into the world headlines through the hi-jacking of a Dutch train and the occupation of the Indonesian consulate in Amsterdam, the reaction of most people throughout the world was one of puzzlement. Few people outside of Holland had ever heard of the South Moluccans and even fewer knew anything of their obscure cause.

Indeed when the sieges had been ended the Moluccans seemed to fade rapidly from world attention but last month's train hijacking and school occupation which ended with the deaths of six Moluccans and two of their hostages, shows clearly that the Dutch Government have a major problem on their hands — a problem that is not going to fade away.

Most of the 40,000 Moluccans who now live in Holland are children of those who left their East Indian island home 27 years' ago. During the Indonesian war of independence after the second world war, the Moluccans — unlike most of the other ethnic groups in the area — had taken the side of the Dutch. Many had served as soldiers in the Dutch colonial army, and the authorities in Holland had promised that they would reward them for their 'loyalty' by establishing an independent Republic of the South Moluccas. But the Moluccans learned to their cost the promises of the colonial Dutch were of no more value than those of the British or any other imperial power. When the Dutch reneged on their promise, a large number of Moluccans, fearing reprisals for the collaboration, felt that their best hope for survival lay in emigrating to Holland.

In their adopted home on the other side of the world, they have kept alive hope of seeing established their independent Republic of the South Moluccas. Like immigrant groups in most countries they have not been treated well. Until quite recently, large sections of the Moluccan community lived in refugee camps and disused army barracks, although it must be said that to a certain extent, they resisted integration into the Dutch community, as they believed that their stay in Holland would be only temporary. In addition there has always been a much higher unemployment rate among the Moluccans than among the native Dutch population.

The Moluccans have maintained their close

connection with the Dutch army and many suspect that this is the source of the arms used in the recent hijackings. The only political groups in Holland to have supported the demand for the establishment of the independent Republic of South Moluccas have been those on the right, and in the light of Dutch public opinion in the aftermath of the recent attacks, even this must be in doubt. The Moluccans demand does not, at this stage, seem at all a viable proposition. There is little or no evidence of support from the Moluccans still living under the Indonesian regime, and in many respects the attitude of the Moluccans living in Holland can be compared to that of many Irish Americans in the U.S. who are in their attitude to Ireland even more Provo than the Provos themselves.

Progressive opinion among the Moluccan community in Holland believe that a solution to the Moluccan problem can be found only when the fascist regime in Indonesia, of which the South Moluccas form only a tiny part, has been overthrown. According to Amnesty International there are over 100,000 political prisoners in Indonesia at the moment, and of course, tens of thousands of socialists and communists were murdered by the authorities there in the mid sixties.

Moluccan socialists believe that it is only when the Indonesian regime has been overthrown, that the democratic rights and freedoms of not only the Moluccans but of the many groups which make up the population of this most populous state, can be guaranteed. The question of independence or some degree of autonomy for the Moluccans can then be examined, they believe.

It is quite clear that the Dutch Government will do nothing for the Moluccans. Any attempt to help them establish a Republic of South Moluccas would endanger the vast economic investments which the Dutch still have in Indonesia, and which enable the Dutch people to enjoy a relatively high standard of living. As with all capitalist powers, protection of their economic interest will be the priority. Equally it is clear that the Moluccans in Holland are not going to abandon their hopes for an independent state, nor are they likely to be silenced by repressive measures and long prison sentences. The Dutch people must face the likelihood of further violence from Moluccan activists. Truly, Holland's colonial past has returned to haunt it.



Dutch Prime Minister JOOP DEN UYL

Irish welcome for P.L.O. representative in Albany, New York

The James Connolly Republican Club, in Albany, New York presented a message of solidarity of friendship to Hassan Rahman, the United States Director of Information of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (P.L.O.) during his recent visit to Albany, New York.

Mr. Rahman was speaking at the College of Saint Rose in Albany at the invitation of the Third World Students Association at the college.

Ann Hess, from the James Connolly Irish Republican Club and editor of the College Newspaper *Inscape '77* read the solidarity message:

"The James Connolly Irish Republican Club welcomes the representative of the PLO to the College of St. Rose and to Albany.

"Irish Republican Clubs across the U.S.A. and Canada welcome their comrade in the struggle for justice, human dignity and the rights of small nations to be free.

"We in the Irish Republican Clubs regard Ireland as being a Third World country in every

meaning of the term. Our association is with Third World Countries who have suffered the same fate that we have suffered from the imperialists of Western Europe and America. We understand what it is to be a subject people; Ireland is Britain's oldest colony. We understand what it is to be murdered and plundered, to have our lands robbed from us while we were driven to the bogs and mountains. We understand what it is to see our children dangling, screaming on the swords of conquering soldiers.

"The Irish people have a common experience with the Palestine people which makes us brothers and sisters.

"The call of the Irish Republican Clubs in America to our Palestine comrades is: Our fight is your fight — your fight is our fight: On to victory!

NEW YORK:

And in New York members of the Irish Republican Clubs National Executive attended a forum on Palestine sponsored by the Palestine

Solidarity Committee in New York in June. The main speaker at the forum was Zehdi Terzi, the PLO's Permanent Observer at the United Nations. A demonstration afterwards, attended by 400 supporters of Palestine was addressed by Tom Hayden of the Irish Republican Clubs. He expressed the Republican Movement's solidarity with the Palestine Liberation and the Palestine Revolution.

"In Ireland", he said, "we fight the same imperialism representing the Exxon Corporation and the other multinationals which exploit our natural resources — we fight the same kind of religious sectarianism which divided Palestinian and Israeli workers and, in Ireland, Protestant and Catholic workers; we fight the same reactionary and counter revolutionary elements, such as the Zionists in Israel, the Phalangists in Lebanon and the Provisionals in Ireland."

WASHINGTON:

In Washington D.C. at the invitation of the All-

African People's Revolutionary Party, Peter Draper of the Irish Republican Clubs delivered a talk in late May to the "2nd National Black Leadership Symposium on Africa". Over 300 people attended the talk including Stokely Carmichael, Organiser of the A-APRP; and Ambassador of the Republic of Guinea, renowned pan-Africanist Dr. C.L.R. James, and a representative from the Embassy of the United Republic of Tanzania.

Addressing a political-cultural rally at the end of the Symposium in the Malcolm X Park and attended by 5,000 people Peter Draper said that the Irish Republican Clubs is in solidarity with African liberation both from a revolutionary sympathy and through the rational analysis of scientific socialism. He said that the IRC support the just demands of black people in North America and opposed any attempts to use Irish ethnicity as a cover for white racism.

JOIN IRC.

Readers of The United Irishman in the USA & Canada can best help the struggle of the Irish people for self-determination by joining the Irish Republican Clubs, Head Office 160 Fifth Avenue, Rm. 604, New York, NY 10010 USA.

EOLAS INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

Yearly Subscription (12 issues)
 England£2.00
 Continent£3.00
 USA\$10.00

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

IRISH REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT 30 Gardiner Place Dublin 1 Ireland

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

Para military

A frequent guest of the racist Rhodesian regime is the much loved Col. Mad Mitch Mitchell. Now retired from politics he runs a company known as Garrison (Research and Procurement Services) Ltd. He is joined on the Board of Directors by his wife and former British Army side-kick Colonel J. D. L. Boyle. Apparently the firm provides advice on "security matters" to those interested.

During his visits Mitchell has had consultations, although he objects to the word, with Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Army Commander, General Walls and senior officers of the Rhodesian Army. Mad Mitch has described his visits as "personal" and in no way connected with business. Trade with the Rhodesians is proscribed by British law. On the other hand the British Government has not banned covert military aid to the fascist Government either in the form of ex-Paras and words of comfort from the former Colonel of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Meddling

Recently the SDLP quite rightly condemned the intervention of Blaneyites in the Northern District Council elections. Blaney supporters had flooded Derry in search of votes for the Irish Front. Such behaviour, declared the SDLP, was intolerable. Equally intolerable was the intervention of two leading SDLP personalities in the recent General Election in the South. Ivan Cooper publicly declared his support for Fianna Fail. And, in an attempt to sabotage the campaign of SFWP Waterford candidate Paddy Gallagher, Paddy Devlin spent a week canvassing for Labour's Frank King. In the event, Gallagher polled twice as well as King. A statement from the SDLP is eagerly awaited.

Pay-off

Well, well who would ever have believed it. The darling of the literary West, Solzhenitsyn, has turned out to be a multi-millionaire with a fortune in Swiss francs. When did he have it? In 1974 when he was expelled from the Soviet Union after having conducted a slanderous campaign against the State and the people.

Historians will now be able to judge in a more critical light the moves which led up to the expulsion. Clearly unable to take advantage of his numbered account in Switzerland Solzhenitsyn forced the hand of the Soviet authorities into banishing him. Russia's "loss" was not Switzerland's gain. The Swiss are angry because he described them as "a Republic of Lackeys". It takes one to know one.

Trendy

Dublin's Community Councillors will try anything in the absence of politics. There was the Watchdog Loftus; is he going to change his name to Sean Dublin Bay Watchdog Loftus? And there was Kevin Byrne in Dublin North Central. Mr. Byrne appealed to the voters in the following way, "Happiness is a Community T.D.", "Love is voting for Your Community Candidate." Now that's the sort of programme to put the country to work and it certainly must have pleased the unemployed.

Solidarity

The International Section of Sinn Fein The Workers' Party have sent a donation of £25 to the Grunwick strikers in London. In a message of solidarity to Jack Dromey, Brent Trades Council representative on the Strike Committee, Sean O Cionnaith says, "Enclosed please find £25 from Sinn Fein The Workers' Party and from the city of Dublin which helped pioneer the struggle for Union recognition in 1913. Dublin got help in that crucial struggle from British Trade Unionism and the British Left. This donation cannot hope to return the gesture in volume but we hope that it does so in spirit. We wish you victory."

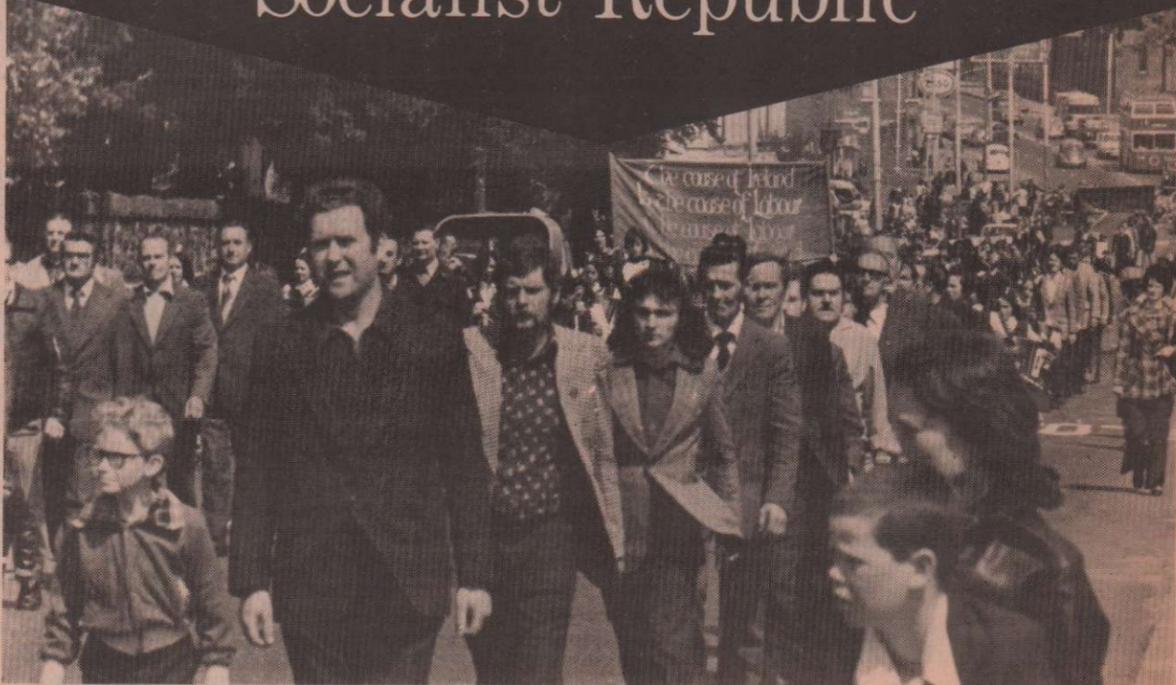
Pieces of yen

A reader in Canada has sent us an interesting magazine titled "Alive." A Maoist publication, they have devoted their June issue to a rapturous analysis of the Provisionals. The remainder of the paper contains a number of attacks on the Socialist countries.

Money seems to be no problem to the publishers and our source says that they "have endless reserves of finance." First published in 1969 "Alive" has sought to promote what they call anti-imperialist armed struggle, attacking all genuine liberation groups as "reformist" or pro-Soviet.

The pattern certainly suits the book of one group of "anti-imperialists" — the CIA. And they have been known to part with the odd dollar to keep people like "Alive" in business.

Rallying the people for the Socialist Republic



Malachy McGurran, Vice-President, Sinn Fein The Workers' Party Delivered the oration at the annual Belfast Commemoration at Milltown Cemetery before an audience estimated at almost two thousand. Mr. McGurran in the course of his speech said:

"We have come here today not to pay some idle lip-service to departed comrades and friends but rather to examine and renew our commitment to the Republican ideal. It is important therefore that no one should be in any doubt as to exactly what that ideal is or about the tactics we have adopted to make that ideal a reality.

"Our understanding of Republicanism today has been formed by critical examination of tradition, outlook and practice; an examination that has been difficult and expensive. In the search for truth our members have been subjected to terror and aggression because they sought to end, once and for all, the poverty, exploitation, emigration, ignorance and death that is the lot of working people.

"We have identified the issues that are of critical importance. Democratic rights, decent housing and jobs for all the people. The tragedy of the past eight years in the North have borne out the correctness of our policies. Direct Rule has brought with it, as we predicted, less democracy, fewer houses and fewer jobs. We have witnessed the use of more repressive legislation than even the Orange Junta of the previous fifty years dared to introduce. Brutality and torture of arrested persons have become the rule of law. In the most concerted attack on personal liberty ever witnessed in this country, the RUC, at the promptings of Mr. Mason, have engaged in a barbaric ritual of torture that offends against every convention on human rights.

"Let it be said loud and clear here today that their victims are, by and large, the totally innocent, the uninvolved, those least able to defend themselves, if indeed any defence is possible, the young and the elderly, against this reign of terror. The RUC have learnt their tactics well from their fellow right-wing sadists in the forces of re-action, that pass for police, in Chile. The phrase, 'the net is closing' is not to be taken as referring to para-military organisations, but it refers to every citizen. No one will be immune from this sordid attempt to boost the figures for 'crimes solved'. Anyone will do the RUC.

Militarism

"This conspiratorial directive from the NI Office is deliberately designed to create fear and apprehension in the community, to prepare the ground for yet another British imposed solution to our political problems. We state now, as we have stated for the past 10 years, that the fundamental source of all our political ills lies in the denial of basic civil liberties to the people. Responsibility for that situation lies solely at the door of Westminster. All political parties here have agreed on the need for Bill of Rights legislation, yet Britain continues to ignore the demand.

"Is it any wonder then that British militarism and sectarian para-militarism dominate the lives of working people? How can it be otherwise, when Britain chooses to ignore her responsibilities? The smoke-screen of violence, perpetrated for its own sake, provides a convenient distraction from the multiple socio-economic deprivation that sorely presses on the community. Britain's failure to take the essential first step on the road to any progressive, peaceful, political solution is primarily motivated by a decided unwillingness to take any significant measures to re-vitalise the economy. The British Government has stood idly by while thousands

of workers are remorselessly tossed onto the dole queue, while our young people are given no reason to believe that anything other than signing-on will be their lot in life.

"While we have been inundated with facts and figures on the extent of poverty in the North over the last 12 months we have yet to hear of any Government plans to eradicate it. The unemployed persons, the jobless school-leavers, the over-crowded families, the low-income households, do not need surveys and pious expressions of sympathy to alleviate their plight. They need work, they need homes, they need real wage increases. Our Party was making these demands 10 years ago. We make them again today.

Callous

"Despite the fury of our enemies we have stood firm on those demands. We have refused to compromise that position for anyone. We have actively opposed all those who have claimed to be revolutionaries and Republicans but whose every word and deed divide the working people. We have paid a very high price for being practical revolutionaries. Too many of our comrades and friends have been laid low by the hands of right-wing forces for anyone here today to go away weak-willed or unsure of our path.

"Having correctly identified the issues we have, with equal clarity, provided the answers. We have recognised the dynamic potential for new economic structures in the economic dimension of the Irish question. We have witnessed the 26 Counties Government betray, in almost scandalous and callous manner, the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland, by exporting our vast reserves of natural resources. Multi-national companies are robbing this country on a scale hitherto unknown in its long history of exploitation, with the active collaboration of the native capitalist class. Thousands of millions of pounds have literally been given away to these multi-nationals while thousands of jobs in Ireland have been sacrificed.

"No border has existed in this country when it comes to repression and terror. No stone has been left unturned by either the British or Irish Government in their sordid rush to stifle civil liberty and political freedom. But neither Government has demonstrated any interest in planning a new economic structure that would materially improve living standards for working people, North and South. Neither Government has indicated a strong desire to involve the Trade Union Movement in the creation of State Planning Bodies; no attempt has been made to harness the natural resources off the coasts of Southern Ireland with the expertise and skilled labour of Northern engineering workers to develop and process those resources to create jobs and wealth for all the people of Ireland.

"In re-iterating our political demands today for civil rights, for jobs, for homes, for better living standards for working people we are but re-affirming our conviction in the Republican doctrine as enunciated by Tone and Connolly. It was for that philosophy that Frank McGlade gave a lifetime of service. It was for that philosophy that so many of our comrades and friends were ruthlessly gunned down by sectarian forces. It is in recognition of the sacrifices of our deceased comrades that we pay tribute here today. Let us continue that tribute every day by pursuing, with their determination and selflessness, that path, as we rally the awareness and support of working people behind our demands for the 32 county Socialist Republic."