

AN
PHOBLACHT
Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING
POLITICAL WEEKLY



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ACTIONS AND WORDS



● Thatcher has made it clear that FitzGerald's opinions are of no interest to her

A WEEK which began with the Dublin government mouthing nationalist anger against the British royal approval of UDR murder could end with a Dublin court handing Britain the gift of extradition.

That is the contradiction which typifies the distinction between words and actions and the reality of Dublin's collaboration with British oppression in Ireland.

The Dublin Supreme Court is due to hear the appeal against extradition by Philip McMahon today

(Thursday). All the indications are that the court itself and the Coalition government are anxious to introduce extradition at the first opportunity.

The lower court's decision to order McMahon's extradition, last August, was in spite of the fact that back in 1975 the same court refused to extradite five other republicans who escaped with him from Newry Court-house.

Even if the Supreme Court decides against the extradition of McMahon on this occasion, another man, Seamus Shannon, faces an appeal shortly against a High Court extradition ruling, and a third man, Hugh Torney, is fighting extradition to face charges on the evidence of a paid perjurer.

The meek acceptance by the Coalition government of the British rebuff, that the royal visit was an 'internal affair', indicates that Dublin really does accept its auxiliary role as Britain's collaborator in repression, without any say in political considerations.

The introduction of extradition would confirm that.



● Britain's Prince Philip reviews the troops at the UDR 'murder barracks' in Armagh last Friday

MASS DEMONSTRATION AGAINST EXTRADITION

2.30pm Saturday 11th February
O'Hanlon Memorial, Clones Road

MONAGHAN

Prominent speakers

All bands and banners are welcome

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OPINION

Unemployment

THE CONTINUED failure of capitalism to provide employment for Irish workers was again demonstrated this week with the release of the monthly figures showing rising unemployment both North and South.

An addition of 7,600 people to the South's register of unemployed in the previous month, bringing the total to 215,552, was described as 'disturbing' by the Coalition government and once again the only remedy suggested is 'improved competitiveness'.

In this way, the crisis proportions of unemployment are again being fobbed off by an establishment which led its electorate blindly into the European Economic Community in 1972. This move effectively destroyed vast sectors of the native industrial economy and within a few short years closed factories the length and breadth of Ireland.

Who now doubts that the entrance of a relatively undeveloped economy into the framework of a large economic arena, which included highly developed industrial nations, was anything short of madness?

Placed at an immediate disadvantage in terms of the added cost of importing raw materials, both because of discrepancies in currency valuation and added distance from source, Irish industries could hardly compete on equal terms with their new 'partners'.

Unlike many of those partners, Ireland was never an imperial power. Cheap imports from a Commonwealth or former colony could not be obtained in a country which was itself a colony and suffered the parasitic prevarications of a foreign power.

The subsidies and grant-aids to weaker member states with which the EEC attempted to conceal the growing gap between the strong and weak have been a sham.

Now that these grants have dried up, even the pretence of creating a European economic equilibrium has been shattered.

With even more industries threatening to pull out of the twenty-six counties as the multinationals continue their 'rationalising' schemes, the prospect for workers is far from rosy in the months ahead.

Added to all these problems, nationalist people in the six counties, who now suffer unemployment figures which officially total over 122,000, have to bear the extra burden of the sectarian nature of unemployment.

Nationalist Strabane now suffers a staggering 41.2% unemployment rate. In Cookstown, the rate is 37.7%, Dungannon and Newry over 34%. Indeed, areas west of the Bann are consistently higher than elsewhere, which further underlines the British refusal to offer any remedy to the economic morass which now afflicts all Northern workers and nationalist workers in particular.

Neither the British nor Free State governments have an answer to the growth in unemployment.

By opposing membership of the EEC, Sinn Féin in the forthcoming elections in June will highlight one of the major contributory factors in rising unemployment, and by continued opposition to British mis-rule in the six counties they will confront another.

Troop withdrawal

THE WITHDRAWAL of American, British and Italian troops from Beirut this week underlines the fact that they were a partisan force in the Lebanese conflict rather than a 'multinational peacekeeping force'.

Dictates of US foreign policy determined the activities of these troops who acted as a prop for the right-wing Gemayel government against the majority Moslem population.

When the Gemayel government collapsed under pressure from left-wing militia, the excuse for the continued presence of the multinational force also collapsed.

The true purpose of the US government was quickly revealed when, after withdrawing its troops from the war-torn city, US battle-ships in the Mediterranean launched a sustained bombardment of Syrian positions in the Bekaa Valley.

With the political hegemony of the minority Christian Phalangists finally broken, the Lebanese Moslem majority is now in a position to take its rightful place in government — a position denied it for generations.

Besides the naked opposition of the US government, whose anti-Soviet paranoia will try to ensure that Lebanon is subjected to 'Western interests', the Lebanese continue to suffer the military occupation of the Israeli army in the south of the country.

With the Israeli population now demanding withdrawal of these forces (by a three to one majority), this problem is not insurmountable, however. And, given the solid determination of the Lebanese people to achieve political justice over the years, an end to the protracted conflict must now be in sight if they are left to resolve their own problems without outside interference.

WAR NEWS...WAR NEWS...WAR NEWS...



• The Newry car showroom where the IRA literally brought the roof down on February 2nd

RUC VERSIONS REJECTED

THE IRA has denied RUC and media claims that, in an attack in Markethill, County Armagh, on Thursday night, February 2nd, an active service unit fired indiscriminately on civilians.

Searching for a member of the RUC Reserve, an IRA ASU entered a cottage at Drumashee on the Markethill-Newry road at about 7pm.

Subsequent inaccurate statements by the RUC and the media suggested that in the cottage "the intended victim pushed his father to the floor and, as shots rang out, he dived for the safety of an adjoining room. Several bullets struck the wall and, as they fled, the gunmen raked the outside of the house with gunfire."

Repudiating this version of events, the IRA point out:

"The RUC man was not at home at the time of the attack. However, there were two men and a woman in the house. When the IRA arrived they arrested and held up the RUC man's two sons.

"A Volunteer went into the house and saw that of the two men in the house neither was a target. As he withdrew, an elderly woman grabbed him and as he struggled to free himself an old man grabbed him as well. He was forced to fire shots into the air to free himself before the Volunteers withdrew.

"The IRA categorically deny opening fire directly on the occupants of the house."

NEWRY BOMB

On Thursday, February 2nd, IRA Volunteers placed a beer-keg bomb at a car showroom in Newry. Although two 45-minute warnings were given, the RUC deliberately delayed clearing the area and a number of civilians, who had not been evacuated from their nearby homes, were slightly injured.

Following the explosion, the RUC claimed that a mere four-minute warning had been given of the bomb, but this was refuted by the IRA:

"Two warnings were given, one to the cathedral and the other to Daisy Hill Hospital at 10.45. The fire brigade arrived at two minutes to eleven. The RUC did not attempt to warn residents until they themselves were safe and the bomb exploded around 11.30pm.

"This is yet another attempt to alienate nationalist people from the republican struggle."

BELFAST DISRUPTION
On Friday night, February

3rd, the IRA's Belfast Brigade successfully disrupted commercial life in Belfast city centre by placing a number of bombs and hoax bombs in Great Victoria Street.

A blast incendiary was detonated at Hobson's photographic shop shortly after 7.30pm, and seconds later another device exploded at Rankin's furniture store. A third bomb left in Robinson's bar was eventually defused after three hours by the British army.

Other hoax bombs in the area caused further problems for the crown forces and seriously disrupted the city centre.

BLUE PROPAGANDA

In a statement issued through the Irish Republican Publicity Bureau in Dublin on Friday, February 3rd, the IRA said:

"The Irish Republican Army denies any involvement in the black propaganda story issued by the British that we are involved in organising or controlling the distribution of blue videos.

"This accusation is but the latest in a heightened black propaganda campaign since the Sinn Féin electoral successes."

EXTRADITION

McMahon in Dublin Supreme Court

BY KEVIN BURKE

PROMINENT Irish-American lawyer Paul O'Dwyer has arrived in Dublin to attend the Free State Supreme Court on Thursday of this week, February 9th, for the hearing of an appeal by Philip McMahon against extradition to the North on charges of escaping from Newry Courthouse in 1975.

The case is the first of its kind to come before the Supreme Court since Chief Justice TF O'Higgins, in ordering the extradition of Dominic McGlinchey in December 1982, indicated a turnaround in the court's attitude to extradition for political offences.

There is also some concern among McMahon's legal advisers that he might be handed over to the RUC even though another application he is making, challenging the constitutionality of the Extradition Act, is awaiting a hearing in the Dublin High Court.

In a stormy session in the Supreme Court a fortnight ago, O'Higgins refused to postpone the Supreme Court appeal until the High Court application had been processed, and told McMahon's counsel that, as the Extradition Act had not yet been found unconstitutional, the extradition order would be immediately operable if the Supreme Court confirms it after this week's hearing.

There is the possibility therefore of McMahon being handed back to the RUC and then, when he is in custody in the North, the Dublin High Court ruling that the Act under which he was handed over is unconstitutional.

UPHELD

McMahon was ordered to be extradited by a district court in March last year, and in August the order was upheld by Judge Ronan Keane in the Dublin High Court, in spite of the fact that in December 1975 and January 1976 the High Court quashed



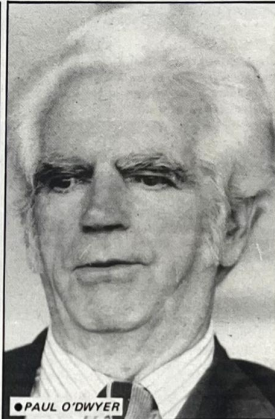
● CHIEF JUSTICE O'HIGGINS

similar orders in respect of five men who escaped with him. All were being held with political status as IRA prisoners in Long Kesh up to the time of the escape.

The High Court decision followed the signalling of a change in policy towards extradition by Chief Justice TF O'Higgins in December 1982, when, confirming an extradition order against Dominic McGlinchey, he indicated that the court would require it to be proven that an offence was a political offence before quashing an order. Previously, persons had successfully challenged an order by showing that they were members of the IRA at the time of the offence, which was carried out as an IRA activity.

This would no longer be enough, said O'Higgins. He declared:

"The court is invited to assume that



● PAUL O'DWYER

because widespread violence is organised by paramilitary groups in Northern Ireland, any charge associated with terrorist activity should be regarded as a charge in respect of a political offence or an offence connected with a political offence. I am not prepared to make that assumption."

The argument of political motivation was dropped by McGlinchey's counsel and was therefore not the subject of a ruling, but O'Higgins nevertheless made his views clear.

SHANNON

In another case, following this lead, on Friday, January 27th, the Dublin High Court confirmed an extradition order against Seamus Shannon on charges connected with the IRA attack on Tynan Abbey, three years ago, when Sir Norman Stronge, former Stormont parliament speaker, and his RUC

reservist son were killed.

Another man, Hugh Torney, is appealing an extradition order to the High Court in connection with charges based on the evidence of INLA paid perjurer Harry Kirkpatrick.

The departure in the traditional approach to extradition by the courts has led to the accusation that the judiciary are taking on a law-making role and doing the Coalition government's 'dirty work' by introducing extradition by a 'back-door' method.

At the Sunningdale-inspired Law Enforcement Commission in 1974, Dublin judges, Henchy, Walsh and Doyle argued strongly against the introduction of extradition on behalf of the Dublin government, and the Criminal Law (Jurisdiction) Act was introduced as a compromise. Successive governments have refused to concede extradition in the face of strident, repeated demands from Tory and loyalist politicians.

CRIMINALISE

The Criminal Law (Jurisdiction) Act, although allowing the prosecution of political offenders in the South, has only been used on a handful of occasions.

Extradition, on the other hand, is viewed as a major political target by Britain in Ireland, being the total acknowledgement by Dublin of Britain's attempts to criminalise the struggle in the North and the view that the solution is a 'security' rather than political one.

In view of the RUC's discredited interrogation methods and the international criticism of paid perjurer show trials in the North — and, in particular, the clear illustration, by Prince Philip's visit, of London's contempt for Dublin's role as anything but a supporting 'security' one — the handing of extradition to the British on a plate would be an extraordinary one.

Such a major concession could only be interpreted as the ultimate acceptance of Britain's presence as unchallenged occupier of six counties of Ireland and the abandonment of the national objective.

FREE STATE MINISTER SHUNS COUNTY COUNCIL LEADER

Coalition insult for Longford

BY JACK MADDEN

IN a carbon-copy of an incident last week, a Sinn Féin elected representative, Michael Nevin, who is chairperson of Longford County Council, walked out of Leinster House on Wednesday, February 8th, when Free State Environment Minister Liam Kavanagh refused to meet a delegation until the Sinn Féin member agreed to leave.

Nevin was included in a delegation which sought a meeting with Kavanagh to discuss the need for finance for road improvements in County Longford. Like Donegal Sinn Féin Councillor Eddie Fullerton, he got no further than a waiting room in Leinster House when Kavanagh summoned the Longford county manager, who returned to inform the delegation that they would be ignored if Michael Nevin did not leave.

Even after he agreed to leave, Nevin suffered the indignity of being escorted out of the building by ushers who, in a remarkable attempt at censorship, refused to allow waiting journalists to talk to Nevin or take photographs.

At this point, a number of gardai on duty at Leinster House

were summoned to force Nevin away from the building.

"As the gardai pushed the journalists away, one of them pushed me. I protested at this treatment, took his number and then left with dignity," said Nevin. He added:

"Labour are terrified that Christy Burke's achievement in the Dublin Central by-election will be repeated and increased all over the twenty-six counties."

PERFORMANCE

In a statement following Wednesday's incident, Sinn Féin said:

"Liam Kavanagh's repeat performance today, in refusing to meet an all-party delegation of Longford county councillors until the chairperson of that county council, Michael Nevin of Sinn Féin, with-



● Sinn Féin Councillor Michael Nevin is escorted from Leinster House

drew, emphasises again the panic of the Labour Party, in particular, at the prospect of Sinn Féin's developing electoral role in the South.

"The fact that an elected local

representative is not allowed to discuss road grants this week, just as in the case of a sewerage scheme and Sinn Féin Councillor Eddie Fullerton last week, is a clear demonstration of just who it is that is being

anti-democratic.

"Sinn Féin is certainly not being damaged by this ridiculous party political pettiness, and we are sure that the people can draw their own conclusions."

Anti-drug action

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

AFTER SEVERAL instances of young people being used to push drugs in the Charlemont Street area of Dublin, and the finding of packs of heroin buried behind the old people's flats in Charlemont Street, the Charlemont Street Community Association called a meeting of local people to discuss the problem in Grantham Street National School on Wednesday week, February 1st.

Two hundred people, representative of most households in the flats, attended the meeting to discuss how the community association should deal with the known pusher in their area.

Since this man's family is well-known and respected by the community, the meeting was anxious that no blame be attached to them, nor should they suffer for their son's actions.

Though Dublin Corporation had been approached about the eviction of this man, the meeting decided that this would cause the family distress and agreed that he should be given one month to stop his drug-pushing. Another meeting is to be held in a month's time to review the situation.

Willie Ormonde, chairperson of the community association introduced Matt Larkin, secretary of the National Association of Tenants Organisations, who chaired the meeting. Ger Condon, a Sinn Féin community worker who lives in the area, spoke from experience of his work with inner city anti-drug committees, including the North Central Support Group which represents 20 tenant and community associations.

He sympathised with the concern expressed by the pusher's innocent family but he warned that pushers did not give up easily, and the threat of eviction did not necessarily deter them. He suggested that the Charlemont Street Community Association should link up with other groups who have successfully dealt with the drug problem to learn from their experience.

Condon also informed the meeting about the opening of a new drug treatment centre soon, at

Beaumont Hospital, and the plans for other such centres.

SPEECH

Alexis Fitzgerald of Fine Gael, during a long speech, told in detail about the letters he had written about the problem and said that the Criminal Justice Bill would solve everything!

A lecture on the evils of 'vigilantes' then followed from Ger Brady of Fianna Fail, to the puzzlement of the audience who had consistently made it clear that there was no such element there. A representative of the Labour Party also delivered a long speech about his 'concern' for the increasing drug problem in the area.

The Labour Party's verbal 'concern' for the young people and communities affected by drug pushing was exposed as mere political expediency on Sunday, February 5th.

BAN ATTEMPT

At a meeting for tenants' associations and concerned people involved in combating drug abuse, held in the Gresham Hotel, Labour MEP Brendan Halligan personally tried to ban Christy Burke from the meeting.

Burke, as secretary of Hardwicke Street Tenants Association, had booked places for himself and Pat Brophy, chairperson of the association, on the Wednesday prior to the meeting. He registered at 10.30am on Sunday at the Gresham Hotel and attended the morning session of the meeting.

However, when he re-entered the room after the lunch-break, Brendan Halligan came down from the platform and ordered Christy Burke



● Packs of heroin being shown in St Teresa's Gardens; the street-value of each tiny pack is around £10, and the value of the heroin on the table (inset) is close to £500

to leave because he was a member of Sinn Féin.

Burke refused to leave, pointing out that he was there to represent the Hardwicke Street Tenants Association, and had, unlike Halligan or any of his party, done considerable work in the area about the drug problem.

WITHDREW

Other people at the meeting, realising what was happening, came over to the door to support Christy Burke's right to attend the meeting and challenged Halligan to put it to a vote. Halligan withdrew his objection.

Although the Labour Party, including Halligan, made no contribution to this meeting, local association representatives found the talks given by Dr Kelly from Jervis Street Drug Treatment Centre, Jim Comberton from the

Coolmine Therapeutic Community, Mr Roche from the Rutland Street Centre, and the social workers from the Anna Liffey Centre in Abbey Street, very informative and useful.

COMMUNICATION

The necessity for communication and co-ordinated action in the fight against pushers was illustrated by a recent incident in St Teresa's Gardens.

A local man found 48 packs of heroin in his flat and brought them to the anti-drugs committee in the flats. The man's son admitted pushing heroin and at an emergency meeting, on January 25th, the boy told about 300 residents how he had been lured into pushing.

When the boy, an addict himself, could no longer get money to pay for his supply, a pusher, whom he named, told him he could push

in return for a regular supply of heroin.

BEATEN

The pusher was traced to Tallaght and the anti-drugs committee told him to attend a meeting in St Teresa's Gardens on Monday, February 5th, which he agreed to do.

Instead, his wife attended the meeting and told the residents of Teresa's Gardens that she did not know about her husband's activities, that she had been beaten by him repeatedly, and that she had a barring order against him. She also said he had left the house and she did not know where he was.

John Noonan, from the Tallaght anti-drugs committee, told the woman to contact the committee in Tallaght if she needed any help, and she agreed to do so. Members of the Tallaght committee have agreed to monitor the situation.

TRADERS STRIKE A BARGAIN

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY



● Sinn Féin's Christy Burke and John Noonan (left, back row) with Moore Street Market traders and independent socialist deputy Tony Gregory (right, front row)

LAST WEEKEND, traders in Dublin's Moore Street Market arrived to begin business and found that Dublin Corporation had pasted notices on their stalls overnight, threatening them with prosecution if the stalls were not removed after each day's trading.

Referring to the stalls in Moore Street as 'litter', the notices ignored the fact that traders have been selling fruit and vegetables in Moore Street for generations, and that the huge new Irish Life Ilac Centre development in Moore Street had given an undertaking to accommodate the traders.

At a meeting on Tuesday, February 7th, between the Department of the Environment, Dublin Corporation and the Moore Street Traders Committee, some agreement

was reached on accommodating the traders.

AGREEMENT

Among other local representatives with the Moore Street Traders Committee were John Noonan, Sinn Féin's EEC candidate for Dublin, and Christy Burke, Sinn Féin community worker. After representations for and by the traders, Dublin Corporation agreed to lift the threat of prosecution and promised to put pressure on the Irish Life company to provide stalls for those traders who want them.

The Department of the Environment are to provide a skip for the disposal of waste fruit and vegetables and other litter, and the traffic department at Dublin Corporation are to be contacted to stop cars parking in front of the stalls in Moore Street.

Problems at Donegal shirt factory

BY MICK DOHERTY

TRADE UNION representatives at Clubman Shirts in Buncrana were informed last Wednesday, February 1st, that the company, Willerton Holdings, is in financial difficulties.

The company, which has received £340,000 in Irish Development Authority grants since 1976, was being taken to court by the Revenue Commissioners. The union agreed to co-operate if a receiver

was put into the factory to prevent loss of jobs and to enable the company to keep trading, and they were assured that all wages would be paid and that work would continue as usual.

Jim McMenamin, ITGWU shop steward, said that the situation at the factory would be kept under review, and, commenting on the state of the clothing industry, said that the 8% VAT on clothing and the increased import quota for Japan would not help.

'The Inishowen area already has the highest unemployment rate in

Donegal, rising to 16% last year, and if Clubman were to close it will be a disaster for Buncrana,' he said.

Sinn Féin's Councillor Eddie Fullerton has assured the union that he will bring the threatened closure of the factory to the attention of the town council and county council.



THE DELIGHTED relief with which the Dublin government and media have accepted London's official reply to 'protests' about the visit of Britain's Prince Philip to the UDR's 'murder barracks' at Drumadd, on Friday, February 3rd, is a clear indication of the genuineness of the original Dublin protest.

In Dublin, the British reply is being portrayed as an expression of regret over the visit. In fact, it is nothing of the kind, and the message in full reads:

"A visit by a member of the Royal Family, to a regiment in the United Kingdom of which he is colonel is a matter for the United Kingdom and, while Her Majesty's government regret the controversy which the visit has created, we had no choice but to respond in these terms."

And on Tuesday, the same day as the British reply was delivered, Margaret Thatcher repeated to the Westminster parliament that she considered the visit "an internal matter for the British" and added: "I would like to say 'thank you', as would most people in this house, for the excellent work Her Majesty's forces do in Northern Ireland in trying to keep law and order in that province."

What the British have told Dublin is: it's a pity if you don't like it, but it's none of your business.

INCENSED

Prince Philip's visit came as no less than eight members of the UDR based at Drumadd are facing charges of murdering nationalists, and six weeks after Thatcher's Christmas visit to the barracks.

Thatcher's gesture had so incensed the nationalist community that local priests had felt compelled to issue a statement protesting at her visit. Later, in January, Cardinal O'Flaich called the visit an insult, and the SDLP's official parliamentary protest quickly followed.

The Duke's visit last week confirmed for Northern nationalists that the British government — closely involved in the planning and organisation of both trips — is prepared to condone the assassination of nationalists by the UDR in order to bolster the flagging morale of its troops, and reassert its imperial domination of the six counties. Alarmed at the growing anger of the nationalist people, the Dublin government swiftly protested to the British government, and a carefully controlled storm was allowed to rage over the weekend in the hope that it would appease beleaguered Northern nationalists.

FORMAL PROTEST

Shortly after SDLP deputy-leader Seamus Mallon's statement call-

ing the visit a "calculated insult to Catholics", it was revealed that the Free State government had sent for the British Ambassador in Dublin and issued him with a formal letter of protest. A similar, although unpublished, protest had been lodged after Thatcher's December visit to Drumadd, Free State officials disclosed. A rather amazing move, given the high degree of collaboration on the Border between the Free State army and the Brits, including the UDR. And a move therefore which must be seen, not as the expression of righteous anger of an injured nationalist sensitivity but as a desperate effort by Free State politicians to quell nationalist militancy.

The protest by Britain was followed by the inevitable and highly predictable screams of rage from loyalists and British politicians and media. Ex-UDR Major Ken Maginnis, of the Official Unionist Party, called Mallon's statement 'offensive' and liable to cause 'attacks on the UDR', while his party colleague Frazer Agnew declared it was none of Dublin's business. Sammy Wilson, of the DUP, called the Free State's protest the 'height of cheek', and both Molyneux and Paisley attacked the Dublin Forum as a threat to the rights of unionists, since the participants resented "The Queen's family coming here even when Northern Ireland is part of the United Kingdom". As for Alliance, it did the impossible: welcoming the Duke whilst calling his visit 'insensitive'.

On Saturday, February 4th, Prior's civil servants issued a brief statement describing the Duke's visit as "an internal matter for the United Kingdom". Tory backbenchers elaborated further: the Free State protest was 'preposterous' (John Biggs-Davison), 'monstrous' (Ivor Stanbrook), and anyway, the *Sunday Express* wrote, the South was merely a "tin-pot foreign state".

BY HILDA
MacTHOMAS

Dublin accepts

'keep out' warning



● The Free State's measly-mouthed 'protests' are transparent — not that Thatcher and her warlords care about them anyway

The *Sunday Times* leader, however, admitting that the visit was 'ill-advised', wrote:

"London cannot claim logically to standing for Dublin ministers in some things, like the fight against terrorism, and deny them it in others."

Or, as the *Irish News* put it on Monday, February 6th, no trace of irony intended:

"How can such a charge (that the visit is an internal matter) be sustained, given the millions of pounds spent annually by the Irish

government in shoring up a border it did not create and which the Irish people do not want?"

VERBAL REPUBLICAN

Fianna Fail leader Charles Haughey was not going to let the occasion slip without posing as the voice of true Irish nationalism. On Sunday, February 5th, he declared to RTE Radio's *This Week* programme that Dublin had been 'humiliated' by London on the visit, and that the Coalition had obviously fooled itself in thinking

that it had restored good relations with London — a direct reference to the attacks levelled by Fine Gael at Haughey's first London-Dublin summit in December 1980. The visit, Haughey continued, was yet "another attempt in some way to prompt or forestall the report of the Forum". And, omitting to mention the close collaboration indulged in by himself with the Brits on border surveillance, Haughey concluded with a call to disband the UDR, which he said was 'counter-productive'.

Haughey's call provoked a second barrage of abuse from unionist politicians. "Cynical and callous coat-trailing", intoned Official Unionist Robert McCartney, while DUP deputy-leader Peter Robinson talked of a "concerted campaign to denude Ulster of a local and effective force" which would be used to "completely stamp out the force of armed republicanism".

However, by Tuesday it looked as if the row had been milked of all its political capital by both British and Free State governments. Between the two remained only 'mutual comprehension', said Free State Minister of Foreign Affairs, Peter Barry. The official British reply to the protest letter was short and sweet — and was cravenly accepted.

The row, obviously, had served its purpose: for the Brits, a boost to unionist morale and a hint to the Dublin Forum that a united Ireland was not on; for the Free State government, an attempt at securing some nationalist credentials on the back of harassed Northern nationalists.

The Irish constitutional parties' overriding motive was best summed up by SDLP leader John Hume, who said of the Duke's visit: "The only beneficiary is extremism."

Translated, this means: if we keep quiet about this one, more voters will switch to Sinn Féin.

Daly's distortions

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

DR CAHAL DALY, the Bishop of Down and Connor, has done it again. Under the flimsy pretext of a memorial lecture at Queen's University Belfast, on Thursday, February 2nd, he launched yet another attack on the Republican Movement. Discussing again the theological concept of 'just war', and conceding that the political system in the six counties was fundamentally unjust, he argued this time that the IRA's fight was not a 'just war' because it 'had no support' and because of the means used.

The IRA obviously could not carry on fighting without a large degree of support, and the IRA has never claimed to be waging a 'just war', merely to be fighting for just aims.

Daly bases his arguments on what can only be called deliberate distortions and lies.

He said:

"It is under false pretences that republicans claim votes for their party as a mandate for the Armalite. It is rankly dishonest to appeal for votes in support of political and social aims and then claim that those votes are votes for violence."

In fact, the Sinn Féin election

manifestoes have always made clear in their opening paragraphs that Sinn Féin "supports the right of the Irish people to resist British occupation". Support for the IRA was further emphasised in public interviews.

ARMED STRUGGLE

However, Sinn Féin candidates also made it clear, both before and after polling day, that whilst they openly supported the armed struggle of the IRA, a vote for Sinn Féin was not interpreted as a vote for armed struggle. It was Sinn Féin's opponents who always insisted, before the elections, that it was.

On June 10th 1983, Gerry Ad-

ams, newly elected MP for West Belfast, declared on UTV:

"I don't think the IRA need a vote to continue their campaign. The IRA receive their mandate from the British presence in their country."

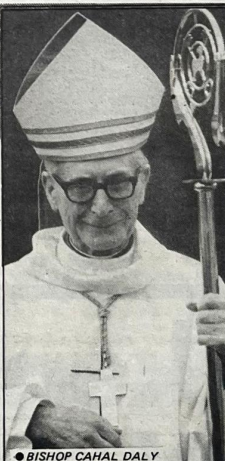
The IRA's methods were further described by the bishop as belonging to "the underworld of crime, not the conduct of war". The bishop omits two important points: that the IRA is constantly refining its methods, in order to avoid civilian casualties and concentrate on British military targets, and also that the Church Hierarchy has not always been too fussy about the means used in wars which got its blessing.

UNIONISM

Daly concluded by showing his complete misunderstanding of unionism. Appealing to 'fair-minded unionists', Daly declared:

"Institutions can be evolved which fully safeguard unionist rights but which can also win the assent of the nationalist community."

What institutions, the bishop



● BISHOP CAHAL DALY

does not disclose. He probably hasn't got a clue. Neither has anyone else, since 'unionist rights' are synonymous with the privileges of an artificial majority in a gerrymandered state, and those privileges are incompatible with the basic civil rights of the nationalist minority, not to mention nationalist aspirations to Irish unity.

From bad to worse



● Part of Mary Slane's crumbling and damp-sodden flat

BY JANE PLUNKETT

A MONTH AGO, when the Housing Executive, after long bureaucratic delays, finally rehoused her family on health grounds, West Belfast mother-of-three Mary Slane was overjoyed.

For months, 29-year-old Mary, her 10-year-old son Sean and daughters Michelle (8) and Teresa (7) had been forced, by extreme dampness, to live and sleep in the living room of their Divis Flats home.

But the house the Slane family were transferred to on January 6th, on the nearby Springfield Road, has proven to be in even worse condition, literally rotting with damp. All four still live and sleep in one room, in a house lacking both cooking and washing facilities, because the Housing Executive has reneged on an undertaking to immediately carry out essential repairs.

Before accepting the house, Mary Slane received a verbal promise from Mary O'Neill, of the Executive's Divis office, that all repairs would be carried out. However, she was not informed of the many serious faults in the house, which she unwisely neglected to inspect thoroughly. As she has since discovered:

"Everywhere is leaking, the kitchen, back room and two bedrooms. When it rains I have to

turn the electricity off at the mains and just sit with a candle.

"There is no power-point for the cooker. The girl next door is doing my cooking for me. There's no hot water and no wash-basin in the bathroom.

"From when I moved up here, the children haven't been in school for a month. One caught the whooping cough and Michelle had a kidney infection.

"The front door doesn't close — I came out the other morning and there was a wino lying in the hall."

CRUMBLING

Inside walls, even on the ground floor of the three-storey house, are crumbling and sodden with damp, and several carpets have been ruined. Mary Slane, who pays nearly £14 rent each week, has already had to call the fire brigade, after one electrical fire, and most of the antiquated sockets do not work.

In desperation, Mary contacted Sinn Féin's Clonard/Colin Advice Centre, who warned the Executive in writing that, as a tenant, she was entitled to take court action

if the Executive continued to neglect their legal obligation to do repairs and maintenance.

But rather than face a considerable repair bill, the Executive has sought rather to evade the law. When Mary Slane visited the Executive, on Friday last, she was astonished to be told that she was no longer a legal tenant, allegedly because she had moved into a proposed redevelopment area. She was then effectively coerced into signing an agreement making her a 'licensed' occupant. The agreement excludes the Executive from any definite commitment to carry out repairs.

On Monday, Mary Slane, accompanied by a local Sinn Féin advice worker, visited the Executive again, but received only a verbal promise that the Executive would secure her front doors, stop the leaks, and ensure that electrical fittings are safe. She recalls:

"I was forced into signing the agreement. They said that if I didn't sign, I would be classified as a squatter and I would get no repairs done.

"The Executive said: 'Did you not see the repairs when you inspected the house?' But you think that a house is going to be dry before they put you into it, that they're going to make sure you have somewhere to cook."

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

FAMILIES in the Lisnahull housing estate in Dungannon, County Tyrone, are threatened by an outbreak of hepatitis and jaundice which residents believe has been transmitted by a plague of rats and aggravated by a large expanse of bogland which encroaches on the perimeter of the estate, providing the rats with ideal breeding conditions.

Genuine fears are growing among Lisnahull's 300 families over this recent outbreak which began three weeks ago and has seemingly escalated unchecked, while local authorities have refused to acknowledge their responsibility for providing safeguards to secure the health and well-being of tenants.

For the past 10 years, residents in Lisnahull Park have been periodically pestered with rats, and within the last few years there have been continuous outbreaks of gastroenteritis, jaundice and, on one occasion, several people were diagnosed to have contracted scabies, a contagious skin disease.

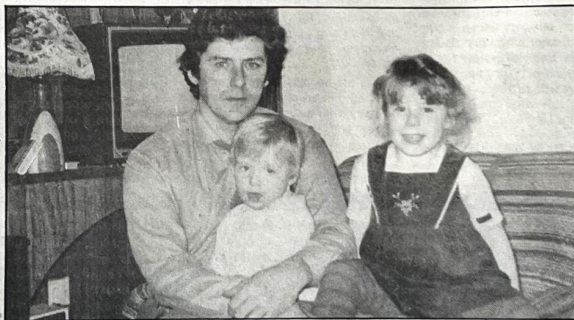
Two people, including a young diabetic boy, were hospitalised for a number of days, and, on Friday, February 3rd, two public health inspectors expressed their concern over the situation to Sinn Féin personnel and residents who accompanied them around the estate.

Seven families have been hit by hepatitis in Lisnahull Park, the infection inflaming the liver and causing extreme sickness to the victim, and residents point to the rats as the transmitters of the infection.

IGNORED

Dessie McCausland and three of his seven

Lisnahull health hazard



● A worried Dessie McCausland with children Matthew and Cathy

children have been affected by hepatitis and jaundice, but despite a letter from their own family doctor recommending the Housing Executive to rehouse the McCauslands, both this and numerous appeals from the family have been ignored. In one incident last summer, public health inspectors discovered a decaying rat under the sink-unit floor in the kitchen, yet the only safety precaution offered was the provision of a rat-box. A

worried Dessie McCausland said:

"Shortly after they discovered the rat, I caught an infection and I was very ill for weeks. It took a long time for it to go out of my system. The Housing Executive just don't give a damn, I am really frightened for my kids with all these rats. You can hear the rats running along the attic and under the floorboards."

Residents in the estate have two basic

demands. Firstly, that a row of thick hedges, which run parallel with their gardens and which are riddled with rat-holes, should be removed and either replaced by a brick wall or, alternatively, a six-foot-high fence.

Secondly, the bogland and stream which originates from waste water in a textile factory in Moygashel and which has degenerated into a local dumping ground and dangerous makeshift playground for children — should be either covered by using piping or concreted over.

The bogland, which is extremely deep in places and poorly fenced in, has already tragically claimed the life of Dungannon boy Patrick Keenan a number of years ago, and since then other young children have narrowly escaped a similar fate.

Last summer, eight-year-old Damien McDonnell from Corrinney Gardens, whose back garden adjoins the bog, fell into it but was fortunately rescued by a passerby; and during the recent bad weather, four other children had similar experiences.

Residents are justifiably angered by the uncaring apathetic attitude of local government and commercial concerns whose neglect over the years in not facing up to their responsibilities has placed their health at risk and caused unnecessary hardship to Lisnahull's 300 families.

Letterkenny survey

BY MICK DOHERTY

RESIDENTS in Muckish Avenue and Oatfield Terrace in Letterkenny, County Donegal, are becoming increasingly annoyed with the lack of maintenance by the local council for their houses and surrounding areas.

In a recent survey carried out by the local Sinn Féin cumainn, complaints in Muck-

ish Avenue — where houses were built only eight years ago — covered a range of de-

ficiencies including dampness, rotten windows and door frames and, in one house, broken chipboard floors.

The lack of street lighting and the unfinished roads have caused injuries to two old age pensioners, one of whom, Maryweeney, tripped on a manhole cover pro-

truding above the unfinished surface and had to receive hospital treatment.

Even after eight years, the designated play area has never been finished and is a mass of mud.

CRACKS

In Oatfield Terrace, the houses,

erected only three years ago, have cracks in all the ceilings and walls.

In one house, the crack runs from the roof to the ground on the outside wide enough to insert a finger.

There are also numerous complaints of kitchen units falling apart, skirting boards coming

away from the walls, and other unfinished work.

The Sinn Féin spokesperson in Letterkenny, Sean Gallagher, ascribed the problems in Oatfield Terrace as being due to the insufficiency of foundations and said that the only solution is for the residents to be rehoused.



Quigley trips and stumbles

BY JANE PLUNKETT

RUC paid perjurer Robert Quigley, who entered a second week of cross-examination at Belfast Crown Court on Thursday, February 9th, has already contradicted himself on several occasions and, by his own admission, has made mistakes about names and alleged incidents.

In all, 16 Derry men are facing trial on the sole word of Quigley. They face a total of 84 charges, including alleged killings, conspiracy to kill and IRA membership.

During searching cross-examination by defence lawyers on Monday, February 6th, Quigley denied that he signed statements to the RUC, on the basis of which the defendants were arrested, were the "gossip, chat and half-baked plots" picked up by him as an unemployed youth hanging around the shops on Derry's Creggan Estate.

Despite equally unconvincing denials that he had manufactured names for the RUC in return for immunity from prosecution, Quigley then admitted that he had named three different men as alleged O/C of the IRA's Derry Brigade.

"I made a mistake," Quigley ex-

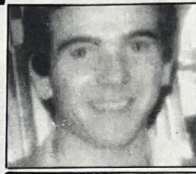
plained, adding that he had "picked things up wrongly".

Quigley also admitted that the RUC in Castlereagh supplied him with details of alleged IRA operations.

DISCREPANCIES

On Tuesday, Quigley further admitted to discrepancies between his original signed statements implicating the defendants and his trial testimony. The perjurer alleged that, in the past, he had been confused both about details of alleged IRA meetings he claims to have attended in Derry and the names of those allegedly involved. With the passage of time, Quigley thus improbably suggested, his memory had become accurate.

On the same day, contradicting his days-old protestations that he had never lied to the court, or to



● Belfast's Crumlin Road Court, where Robert Quigley (inset) contradicts his own perjured testimony.

the RUC 'handlers' with whom he produced his signed statements, Quigley stated that in those statements to the RUC he had implicated an innocent man in alleged

firearms offences. Quigley named the man as Terence Moore.

Alleging that he had invented this lie in order to save a friend, Quigley then elaborated a sentiment

ental explanation which predictably hit the media headlines, though it reeks of the contrived RUC schooling apparent in much of Quigley's 'evidence' to date.

NEW BILL BLASTED

BY PEADAR MORAN

A CAMPAIGN Against the Criminal Justice Bill was launched at a press conference in Dublin on Monday, February 6th.

A policy statement from the campaign was read to the press conference by Joe Costello of the Prisoners Rights Organisation, which highlighted the chief effects of the new legislation on children.

Children of seven can be arrested and held in a Garda barracks for up to 20 hours at a time without being charged with an offence.

They can be interrogated, fingerprinted, photographed and strip-searched. The Gardaí are not obliged to contact a parent or a solicitor. Even if contacted, neither a parent nor a solicitor is entitled to be present during interrogation.

Verbal statements by child-

ren will be admissible in court, and failure of a child to 'co-operate' in interrogation, strip-searching, photographing and so on can result in 12 months' imprisonment. The silence or forgetfulness of a young child can be used against them in court.

WHITE-COLLAR

These proposals are in sharp contrast to the measures felt necessary to deal with 'white-collar' criminals, whose crimes are completely exonerated by the Bill. As the campaign's policy statement points out, a feature of the Bill is its very narrow conception of what constitutes a crime.

"There is no attempt to

deal with such activities as tax evasion, the illegal transfer of large sums of money out of the country, the use of inferior and toxic materials in manufacturing and building and environmental destruction", says the statement, and continues:

"The only possible reason for this curious 'omission' must be the undeniable fact that these crimes are committed by the better-off, better-educated in Irish society. This class-ridden perception of what constitutes crime underlies the measures proposed in the Criminal Justice Bill."

Journalist Eamonn McCann spoke on the effects of the proposed legislation which he said "increased enormously the power of the state over its citizens" and pointed out that the only people consulted by the Coal-

ition in drawing up the legislation were the Gardaí, whom he described as "the repressive arm of the state machine".

NORMALISE

Donal O'Sullivan, a solicitor and member of the Irish Council for Civil Liberties, told the press conference that the purpose of the Bill is "to normalise the procedures set out in the Offences Against the State Act" and that, as such, the Bill marked "a major shift away from detection to detention".

Fr Peter McVerry, a Jesuit priest who works amongst the people of Dublin's inner city, told the press conference of the reaction of ordinary people to the Bill in the communities where he works:

"Universally, they are horrified at what are enormous inroads into the rights and liberties of ordinary people."



● The Criminal Justice Bill poses particular dangers for children

Dungannon discrimination



● John and Nora McDonagh with their eight children

A TRAVELLING family who settled in Dungannon's Ballygawley Road Estate ten years ago in the hope of making a better life for their children, have run up against a barrier of sectarianism and discrimination from bureaucrats in the Dungannon Housing Executive.

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

John and Nora McDonagh originally lived in a caravan in nearby Lisnahuil but decided to settle after two of their eight children were born. At first, the McDonaghs squatted in the two-bedroomed house and after nine months, finally received a rent book.

However, the once adequately spacious house is today totally unsuitable to comfortably accommodate the McDonaghs' eight children (aged between one and 12 years old), seven of whom sleep in the same bedroom.

Nora McDonagh expressed concern for her children's health, living in such cramped conditions:

"If you've seven youngsters all in one room, and two of those girls, it's very hard to put up with. One awakens the other and if one's

sick, they all get it. I have very little room for their clothes as the whole room's taken up by three double beds."

BITTER

The McDonaghs feel very bitter about the fact that other families with less children and registered on the housing list for shorter periods of time, have been accommodated by the Executive without much difficulty, yet, John McDonagh points out:

"We are just put back on their list, even though the health inspector admitted that the house was overcrowded. As far as I can see, the Housing Executive don't want anything to do with travelling people. It's nothing but pure discrimination."

The hypocrisy

BY JACK MADDEN

A MAJOR part of the black propaganda aimed at the IRA's continued armed campaign against Britain's presence in Ireland, rests on establishment claims that the methods used by the IRA would be anathema to the IRA of the Tan War period.

Politicians, bishops, judges and the media (even in Britain) regularly make sanctimonious pronouncements that today's activities 'bring shame' on the memory of IRA fighters of 60 years ago.

And indeed, the popular conception of the Tan War revolves around the major ambushes carried out by such as Tom Barry and similar heroic actions against considerable odds.

Underneath the romanticism and the revision of history, however, the reality of the war carried out by the IRA in those

days was far harsher. And the IRA today has shown considerably more qualms than their predecessors in the type of action they are prepared to carry out.

AP/RN reporter Jack Madden has been researching the Tan War period and in this article details some of the conveniently 'forgotten' aspects of the IRA actions at the time.

He concludes that violent death, whether in 1920 or 1980, is an unsavoury reality of war, and then, as now, responsibility rests with the British oppressor. Those establishment figures who today denounce resistance as 'terrorism' would find their exact counterparts condemning Ireland's freedom struggle in the same terms 60 years ago.

EASTER WEEK 1966 was, for those who remember it, a period when it was fashionable to proclaim republicanism and identify with our revolutionary heritage. Churchmen and politicians clambered onto platforms throughout the twenty-six counties and sang the praise of 'those who gave their lives for Irish freedom' during the 1916 Rising and the Tan War.

Fifty years after the event, it was easy and safe to forgive James Connolly his socialism and even to spread the rumour that he had retracted this socialism on his deathbed. It was safe also to select the incidents of heroic sacrifice and submerge the reality of war.

It was even safe for RTE to record these commemorations on celluloid and for the establishment to give the seal of approval to a war which an earlier establishment had denounced as a 'terrorist and subversive conspiracy'.

When war erupted again, at the end of the '60s, and a new generation of Irish freedom fighters took up arms to oppose British rule in the six counties, that same establishment used the myth they had created to pretend that what happened in the Tan War differed intrinsically from the armed struggle in the North.

Just to be on the safe side, they ordered RTE to let the celluloid reminders of 1966 gather dust in their archives and to play Moore's melodies rather than old rebel songs on the radio. Then, armed with censorship and the great lie that Pearse, Breen, Kevin Barry and their comrades were virtually passive victims of British oppression, they could safely denounce the new generation of freedom fighters as 'cold-blooded terrorists' and introduce draconian legislation to imprison, torture, and, ultimately, extradite them.

Leaving aside altogether the deaths of civilians during the Easter Week Rising, which led to denunciations from a general populace who were hostile to militant nationalism, the Tan War itself opened in a bloody encounter between the RIC and a Tipperary Flying Column led by Dan Breen on January 21st 1919.

According to media reaction, both RIC Constables McDonnell and O'Connell were "popular and neither was connected with political prosecutions in the country". Besides the condemnation by Archbishop Hartly, who denounced these "cold-blooded murders", the priest officiating at the funeral of the two men added:

"Persons who perpetrated such crimes would bring on their country disgrace and on themselves the curse of God."

'FELLOW IRISHMEN'

The elected Dail Eireann had not sanctioned this outbreak of hostilities, but many IRA Volunteers recognised that since the RIC were 'the eyes and ears' of British imperial rule in Ireland, then Breen's attack was justified. In the months ahead the RIC were increasingly regarded as legitimate targets, and, by the end of 1919 attacks on these 'fellow Irishmen' became the main feature of resistance to British rule in Ireland.

Nor were these attacks confined to

RIC men 'on duty', as was clearly demonstrated in Ballylongford, County Kerry, on January 3rd 1920, when a Constable Clarke was shot with a double-barrelled shotgun as he paid bills in local shops.

Realising that RIC men were never 'off duty', IRA Volunteers availed of every conceivable opportunity to attack them, as in Dublin where Assistant Commissioner William Forbes Redmond was ambushed and shot dead from behind as he walked towards a Harcourt Street hotel on January 22nd 1920.

Such attacks were legion throughout the Tan War, as were the attacks of the media on the IRA Volunteers involved. Following one attack in which an RIC man was shot at the door of his home, the *Irish Independent* editorial asked, "can any reasonable-minded man see what useful purpose can be served" by these acts.

In an inquest which followed one such death, on January 23rd 1920, the jury was told:

"It is only when every person of every rank and station comes forward and that there is a strong expression of abhorrence of such deeds, that they will be stamped out in this country," a sentiment reflected in calls for cross-community support for the RIC today.

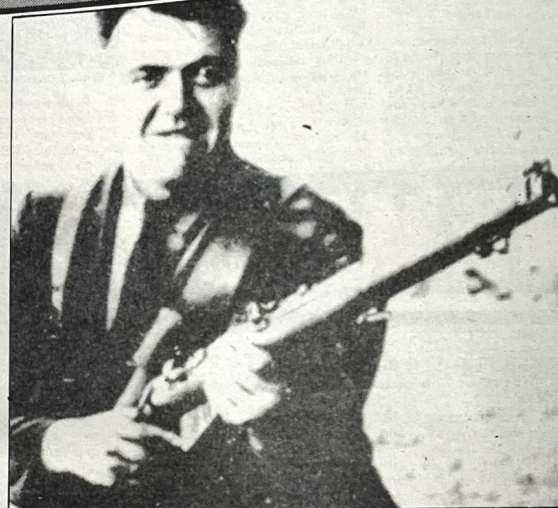
Much play is made of incidents when RUC men have been killed in front of their families, but again such incidents occurred regularly in the Tan War, as in one attack in Listowel, County Kerry, when RIC District Inspector Tobias O'Sullivan was shot dead in front of his five-year-old son in January 1921. Occasionally, civilians would try to prevent such attacks, as in Limerick on December 26th 1920, when a young woman was shot dead when she placed herself between an armed Volunteer and her RIC boyfriend.

LEGITIMATE TARGETS

Whether socialising in pubs, coming from church, or sleeping in their beds, RIC men were viewed as legitimate targets because it was generally recognised, as it is now, that even in their private lives a political armed police force will gather information to be used against those who oppose the status quo.

An RIC man, Patrick Foley, home on leave at his home in Annascaul, County Kerry, was discovered near Tralee with his hands bound behind his back, his eyes bandaged and 26 bullet holes in his body. He was one of countless RIC men who thought they could temporarily forget their 'working' activities away from their area of operations — to their cost.

Two RIC brothers who were ambushed as they left a Balbriggan pub, and two others who died while drinking in County Clare, were but a few of those who paid



● A plainclothes British agent in Tipperary on October 14, 1920

the price for trying to live normal lives in a time of war. Lying in bed in a Belfast hotel, two RIC men were shot dead and one seriously injured in January 1921.

The establishment reacted then, as it does now, to such incidents by condemning the 'evil perpetrators'. When two RIC men were shot in the back as they returned from evening devotions in a Catholic church, the local priest asked whether "the wicked, miserable criminal actually profaned the church and outraged the Sacred Heart by his presence at the Benediction" or whether "he waited outside in the grounds hallowed by the saintly monks of the monastery".

One incident which characterised the attitude of the IRA in this period occurred at a fancy dress ball in the Strand Hotel, Rosliffe, County Wexford, when armed Volunteers entered the hall and lined the crowd, which included members of the crown forces, against the wall.

The IRA officer in charge then ordered the crown force members to get out and, turning to the civilians present, told them that "social intercourse with the people is denied the army of occupation".

People foolishly enough to ignore such warnings were subject to IRA punishment as in Tubbercurry, County Sligo, where, in August 1920, a girl found guilty of associating with soldiers had her hair cut and was then tarred. And in the same month a Loughrea, County Galway, girl had her hair cut off for talking to RIC men.

The difficulty in obtaining weapons led to an added source of activity for the IRA who, besides disarming the RIC and military, made regular forays to private houses where they suspected weapons could be obtained. A feature of such raids was that it was usually Protestant/unionist houses which were raided, since they generally had shotguns.

Volunteers often met resistance during

such raids, as at the time of a raid on Ballagh, Enniscorthy, County Wick. After refusing to give up arms, the house in February 1920, was spade and attacked. Eileen Morris, a nurse of was shot dead by a Volunteer.

In another raid, near Tipperary, a retired RIC officer, who was a justice of the peace and a member of the County Tipperary and Clonmel and critically wound him to give weapons to bludge him a visit. And an and County Monaghan offered when they attempted to arrest arms raids.

MAGISTRATES

Landlords and magistrates regular attacks (a post-war more recent case) on March 3rd 1920, North

One month in 1921

AMONGST the activities attributed to the IRA in a one-month period between April 7th and May 7th 1921, were the following:

April 7th: Three men were killed by a bomb in Harcourt Street, Dublin. One soldier was slightly wounded.

Ed Beirne (50) was executed as a spy ten yards from his Strokestown, County Roscommon, home.

Thomas Shannon, Killrush, County Clare, was shot dead ten days after refusing to pay Sinn Féin rates.

April 8th: An ex-ERIC man (retired over 30 years) and a former British soldier, both farmers, were taken from their homes and shot in Castlereagh.

A shoemaker found guilty by the IRA of spying was shot dead.

Another spy, Thomas Byrne, a former British soldier from Drumlish, County Longford, was executed at his mother's house.

April 13th: A Protestant farmer found guilty of spying was executed near Athlone.

April 15th: 63-year-old former British soldier Thomas Morris was blindfolded and

shot dead in Kinvara, County Galway.

April 16th: Thomas Walker, a civil bills officer, was taken from a house and shot in a nearby quarry.

Between Carrickmacross and Crossmaglen the IRA executed another spy, former British soldier John McCabe.

April 18th: A bomb was thrown into a pub in Ennis, County Clare, and killed one British army sergeant and wounded an RIC man and two civilians.

April 19th: Forty-year-old Kate Carroll was bound and dragged from her mother's home near Monaghan town

and shot as a spy.

A bomb was thrown at British army barracks in Street, Dublin, injuring civilians.

April 26th: James, a former British soldier from Newmarket, County Clare, was shot in his home and shot a Protestant farmer, Countess, was shot dead.

April 26th: John Hannon was found spying and shot dead. Also, a spy was shot in May 6th: Thomas, a spy, was shot and executed near Ennis, County Clare.

May 6th: Thomas, a spy, was shot and executed near Ennis, County Clare.

of historical revisionism



British agent is carried from Dublin's Talbot Street after being shot dead by Sean Th 1920

home of Eileen Morris, County Wexford. She gave weapons to a group of men who visited her in 1920, she seized a man. At this point, other of 15 children, Volunteer.

near Nenagh, County RIC county inspector of the peace for and Clare, was shot dead when he refused Volunteers who paid man and a woman in suffered the same fate led to thwart two sep-

STRATES

magistrates suffered point worth noting in of Norman Stronge). Frank M Shawe-Tay-

a spy. was thrown at a lorry in Grafton in, injuring three

nd: James O'Reiller British soldier market-on-Fergus, re, was taken from and shot dead.

rd: John Harrison, re farmer from Bal County Leitrim, ad.

28th: In Tuam, Galway, Thomas as found guilty of shot dead.

d: Also found guil was Patrick Mol was shot dead.

th: The body of an man, Thomas O'Sul used to lure RIC an ambush at Rath- Kerry.

lor JP was shot dead near his Athenry, County Galway, home. He had refused to sell his land (some thousands of acres) for distribution amongst his tenants.

The president of a court of inquiry into alleged relations between certain Irish banks and Sinn Fein was executed by the IRA in Dublin, who dragged him from a tramway car before shooting him.

Major GH Johnstone JP, aged 70, was shot dead by the IRA in his home at Eden, ten miles from Glenties, County Donegal, on August 28th 1920. He was a large landowner and at the inquest which followed his death no jury turned up.

Captain Lendrum, a magistrate, was abducted near Killee, County Clare, in September, and was subsequently shot dead. A note left on his coffin by the IRA pointed out that, while there was no personal grievance against Lendrum, "he represented a Hunnish government".

Another magistrate and landlord's agent, George Friend, was shot dead in Moneygall, County Offaly, in December 1920, and one month later, William McGrath KC (King's Counsel) was shot dead by IRA men who forced their way into his house on Dublin's North Circular Road.

People who interfered with or tried to frustrate IRA attacks on crown forces often met with sudden death.

James Walsh, who owned a shop adjoining the RIC barracks at Carrig-on-Barrow, County Wexford, was shot and killed when he tried to stop Volunteers placing explosives beside the barracks. In Fermoy, County Cork, ND Prendergast, a former British soldier and member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, threatened to tell police of an imminent attack on the local barracks. His body was found a month later in the River Blackwater. And a Clare man, Patrick Falvey, was shot dead when he was discovered filling in a trench which had been dug by the IRA near his Kilrush home.

CIVILIANS

Civilians who were considered to be



● An IRA Volunteer is arrested in June 1922 after executing Field Marshal Sir Henry Wilson at his London home

acting as spies for the crown forces were also killed. One 56-year-old invalid who owned a shop in Manor Street, Dublin, was shot dead and a placard left on his body which read:

"A traitor to Ireland — shot by IRA."

The English manager of a Cork wine store, James Beale, suffered a similar fate. Two months after the abduction and death of his father-in-law and brother-in-law, Beale was shot dead. On his body was a note:

"Convicted spy. The penalty for all who associate with the Aux (liaries), Cadets, the Black and Tans and the RIC — IRA. PS: Beware."

Former members of the crown forces were regularly found to be acting as spies and there were scores of occasions when these ex-soldiers and ex-RIC men were executed as a result of these activities. Informers discovered within the IRA and the civilian population were also shot dead (in one week, ending February 21st 1921, seven informers were executed).

It is difficult to ascertain the exact number of such executions since then, as now, the British often resorted to black propaganda tactics, leaving false evidence that people were killed by the IRA. Even so, it is equally clear that, at a time of war, spies and informers could not be tolerated — and they were not tolerated by the IRA, who were forced to take drastic action to deter such practices.

By the same token, it must be understood that the IRA operated under martial law conditions in many areas such as Munster and Dublin and with these areas saturated with RIC and military it was inevitable that attacks would be made in situations where civilians might be endangered.

On Sunday, June 6th 1920, a civilian died when IRA Volunteers attacked an RIC patrol in Cullyhanna, County Armagh. Volunteers attacking Captain King at Mallow railway station, County Cork, in February 1921, killed his wife who was standing beside him (an occasion used by the crown forces to massacre railway

workers). Similarly, in bombing attacks in Dublin and elsewhere civilians were injured and sometimes killed.

Inexperience rather than malicious intent was a feature of many such tragic incidents.

Drastic measures were sometimes taken against civilians who failed to obey explicit IRA instructions.

WARNINGS

After failing to heed repeated IRA warnings to leave the Abbeyfeix district, 47-year-old Geoffrey MacDonald was dragged from his bed and shot in front of his wife, while a Kilrush man, Thomas Shannon, was executed when he refused to pay Sinn Fein rates.

Two County Cork farmers, William Connell and Matthew Sweetman, suffered death as punishment for giving evidence against a local republican who had been given a six-month sentence for an illegal collection.

Abductions and the bartering of lives of crown forces members and wealthy civilians for the lives of Volunteers facing execution in jails also occurred. A wealthy woman in her 70s was held hostage against the execution of IRA Volunteers in Cork Jail — and when the Volunteers died so did she.

Up to January 1921, there were no less than 3,000 mail robberies in Ireland. Transporting old age pensions from Crossmaglen to Cullyhanna, a postman, Patrick Kirke, was supplied with an RIC escort which was ambushed along the way. The RIC fled, leaving Kirke dead on the road. When they returned later to retrieve the body, a Special was shot dead by the IRA who had lain in wait for them.

Armagh was then, as now, a major flashpoint area and the activities of armed loyalists and Specials met with swift and deadly reaction from the IRA, led by Frank Aiken. Attacks on loyalist homes continued after the Treaty with the co-operation, in the early stages, of the Free State government, who sanctioned the

supply of explosives to the IRA in Armagh.

Indeed, the same Free State forces were actively involved in the abduction of dozens of leading unionists from Counties Fermanagh and Tyrone in 1922 and holding them as hostages in Cavan and Meath.

REALITY OF WAR

Michael Collins himself sanctioned the execution of Sir Henry Wilson in London just as he had sanctioned and directed the execution of British agents in their beds in Dublin on November 21st 1921, while attacks on the homes of leading unionist figures such as Lord Bandon were accepted as part and parcel of the war.

Violent death, whether in 1920 or 1980, is an unsavory reality of war. Far from the romanticism which has been attached to the conduct of the Tan War, people, both innocent and guilty, died.

Today, few would deny that their deaths were directly related to and indeed caused by the British occupation of our country. Yet establishment politicians and now legal figures in the Free State pretend that militant republican resistance today is somehow unpolitical, even though that resistance has been more selective, if anything, than that witnessed throughout the Tan War.



BY RITA O'HARE

A DELEGATION from the Women's Organisation of Angola (OMA) visited Dublin last weekend during their extensive tour of Europe.

A meeting in Buswell's Hotel on Saturday, February 4th, organised by the Anti-Apartheid Movement, heard that the purpose of the tour was to give proper information about what was happening in Angola as they were aware that information in the Western media was deficient.

Starting the meeting with a short account of the history of Angola's liberation struggle against Portugal, Ruth Neto went on to talk about South Africa's continued aggression against Angola and the exploitation of Africa by Western countries, especially the USA.

Attacks by South Africa on neighbouring Namibia have caused large numbers of refugees to flee into Angola. And whilst Angola welcomes these refugees, they are putting an enormous strain on already meagre resources to care for them properly, she said.

South Africa are also arming and training UNITA counter-revolutionaries in Angola, whose ideology was racist and tribalist, in an attempt to overthrow the Angolan government and return to a neo-colonial system.

Speaking about South African attacks on Namibian refugee camps in Angola, Ruth Neto angrily dismissed South Africa's claims, given prominence in Western newspapers, that they attacked only bases belonging to the Namibian liberation movement SWAPO in Angola.

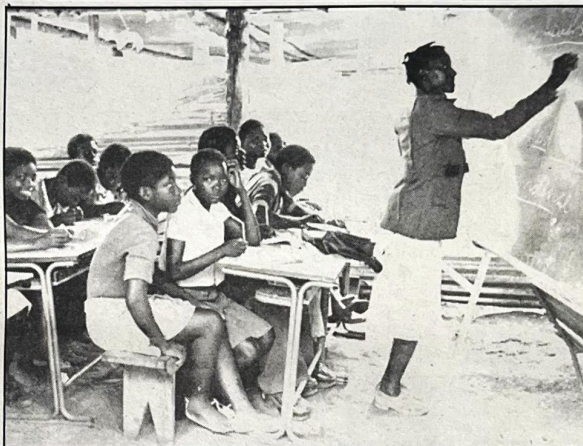
MASS MOVEMENT

In reply to questions from members of Sinn Féin's Women's Department about the work of OMA, the Angolan women on the delegation said that OMA was part of the mass movement MPLA, which had been set up in 1961. All the work of OMA was related to the struggle for freedom from imperialism, they said, and women were mobilised through campaigns of support for prisoners and for the guerrilla fighters, many of whom were women.

After independence, their numbers had grown dramatically and they were able to implement programmes on education, health, and basic skills. Illiteracy had dropped from 85% to almost nothing, and the OMA won an international prize for literacy teaching in 1982.

The OMA also launched campaigns to increase food production in rural areas and

ANGOLAN WOMEN IN DUBLIN



● The Women's Organisation of Angola have won an international prize for literacy teaching

local women were mobilised to carry out the programme. Child vaccination projects, part of the OMA's health programme, have been launched in all areas of the country and traditional midwives in the villages are given courses in hygiene and pre and post-natal care.

TRADITIONS

Luisa Gaspard, another member of the delegation, spoke about the necessity for Angolan women to adapt to the present situation without, at the same time, sweep-

ing away all their culture and traditions.

Some traditions, she said, are not accepted by women, such as the 'bride price', where a woman is literally bought by her husband and his family. The younger generation of Angolan women, especially in the towns, do not have problems like these but it is necessary to review rituals and traditions to ensure there is no exploitation of women.

Whilst all these things are important and necessary, Luisa Gaspard continued, "the priority for Angolan women is the defence



of our country", and women in the OMA are most conscious of that.

Women are part of the whole revolution she said, and very often political consciousness starts from being a woman with problems, which quickly broadens to an understanding of the wider issues.

RECOGNITION

In conclusion, Luisa Gaspard said that Angola is demanding recognition for Namibia, the withdrawal of South African forces from Angola, and all aid to UNITA to be stopped.

She also called on Western governments to stop selling arms to the apartheid regime in South Africa.

The African National Congress has declared 1984 Year of the Women, in recognition of their contribution to the struggle, and have issued a call to "the international women's movement and to freedom-loving peoples of the world to join us in marking 1984 South Africa's Year of the Women, in pursuit of the common goals that we all espouse".

The ANC said: "One of the fundamental tasks that this process of national liberation confronts is the liberation of the women of our country from their triple oppression on the grounds of sex, class and colour."

Fermanagh floods

BY AINE MOORE

LARGE AREAS of County Fermanagh, flooded after the recent bad weather, cannot be drained because of the cut-back in funds available to the Agricultural Drainage Department from the British government.

There are now two squads of men and machinery trying to cope with work previously carried out by ten squads, and urgent drainage work is not being done.

Owen Carron, Sinn Féin elected representative for the area, has called for priority in agricultural drainage work to be given to Fermanagh because of the vast expanses of water in the county,

particularly the area round the Sillees River.

The Sillees flows from Derrygonnelly to Lower Lough Erne at Enniskillen, where the level of the lough is very high. Large tracts of farmland in the area are flooded, but the Drainage Department have only drained land near Derrygonnelly, at the highest point of the river.

The lower-lying area, which is predominantly nationalist, still suffers severe flooding. Philip Gallagher, of Leitrim, Boho, has 13 acres of land which have been flooded several times during the winter.

One section of the Samsonagh Road near the Sillees River is regularly flooded in winter, making it impassable. School buses, postal and medical services cannot travel over this stretch of road. The only solution is to raise the level of road above land level, a scheme carried out on other roads in the area.



Water rates opposed

RESIDENTS from the Tallaght and Blanchardstown areas of Dublin picketed the offices of Dublin County Council in O'Connell Street, on Tuesday last, to protest against the imposition of water rates and other levies on local services.

The new rates, which have aroused widespread community opposition in the twenty-six counties, were introduced last Autumn by the then Environment Minister, Dick Spring, leader of the Free State Labour Party.



Play-centres row

BY JACK MADDEN

FAILURE by Dublin Corporation to provide adequate staffing levels in its play centres throughout working-class areas of Dublin has led to a strike today (Thursday) by workers employed in the centres.

Despite the opening of new centres in a number of city areas, the Corporation has refused to maintain or increase staff in any centre, and after protracted negotiations workers were eventually forced to take limited industrial action last week.

A new play centre to be opened in Cabra was boycotted by staff who refused to work in it, other than allowing children in the area to register. The Corporation responded by suspending the three workers who were to work in the centre and telling them that they

would not be redeployed elsewhere.

REFUSED

This move precipitated today's strike as the Corporation ridiculously refused to meet the workers, members of the Federated Workers Union of Ireland, for another week.

The closure of the play centres, which provide an urgently needed service for children in deprived areas is, according to workers' spokesperson Ann O'Brien, the fault of the Corporation, who are seemingly intent on allowing the service to run down.



● International inquiry members Geoffrey Bindman, Kadar Asmal, John Brittan and Michel Zavrian

Crown murders examined

BY JANE PLUNKETT

A TEAM of international lawyers, who are conducting a major inquiry into fatal shootings by the crown forces, arrived in the North last weekend to hear evidence from eyewitnesses, organisations and solicitors.

The inquiry, whose sponsors include the British National Council for Civil Liberties, the National Conference of Black Lawyers (USA), the Guild of Lawyers (USA) and the Association for Legal Justice, has already received a mass of written evidence, including transcripts of court proceedings.

Submissions were invited also from Northern direct-ruler James Prior, from the British army and RUC, from coroners' courts, the Director of Public Prosecutions and from the British Attorney-General's office in London. All predictably refused to give testimony.

The number of men, women and children shot dead in disputed circumstances by crown forces since 1969 is nearly 140, according to some statistics submitted to the inquiry. In his evidence, Fr Raymond Murray put the total at 124 (to the end of 1983). Murray added that, though some members of the crown forces have been charged in relation to such incidents, none had been convicted.

During three days of public hearings, which opened in a packed hall in Armagh on Saturday, February 4th, and continued in Derry and Belfast on the next two days, the lawyers had time only to hear witness testimony relating to 16 such incidents. Throughout, the atmosphere was subdued and, on occasions, the still-painful grief of relatives came to the surface.

POINT-BLANK

During the first day's session, in Armagh, four witnesses described how local youth 18-year-old Martin Malone was shot dead at almost point-blank range by the UDR on July 30th last. More than six months after Malone's killing, the file on the incident is still with the DPP.

The inquiry also heard evidence relating to two fatal shootings in Pomeroy, County Tyrone. In November 1983, 77-year-old Mrs Bridget Foster was shot dead as she collected her pension at the local post office. Several years earlier, local man Patrick McElhone was shot dead as he mowed hay near his elderly parents' home.

The dead man's brother, Michael McElhone, gave evidence of the traumatic effect of the incident on his elderly parents, both of whom died shortly afterwards. Another brother has required on-

going psychiatric treatment for nerves.

The witness added that a British soldier charged with his brother's killing was acquitted by a Diplock judge, on the grounds that the Brits involved were new to the area and therefore edgy.

REMEDIES

The lack of legal remedies available to relatives of victims was highlighted in a submission by Gus Campbell, one of several solicitors who testified. In coroners' courts in the six counties, Campbell pointed out, families are denied the right to cross-examine the crucial crown forces witnesses. Coroners' juries, unlike their counterparts in Britain, are barred from seeking to establish who is responsible for a death by their limited terms of reference.

Several witnesses pointed out that vital forensic tests and pathological examinations are carried out by British state bodies. During Sunday's session, in Derry, Michael English, the father of 19-year-old Gary English who was run over and killed by a British Land Rover on April 19th 1981, explained how the findings of a Danish pathologist he brought over, at his own expense, had contradicted the official pathologist's report "on every detail". Michael English is still fighting to obtain a re-trial of two Brits acquitted two years ago of reckless driving charges relating to his son's death.

Evidence was also given concerning six other unarmed Derry men: IRA Volunteers Denis Heaney, Patrick Duffy and Eamonn Bradley; INLA Volunteer Neil McMonagle; 15-year-old Manus Deery and Kathleen Thompson, a Derry woman shot dead in her garden as she rattled a bin-lid.

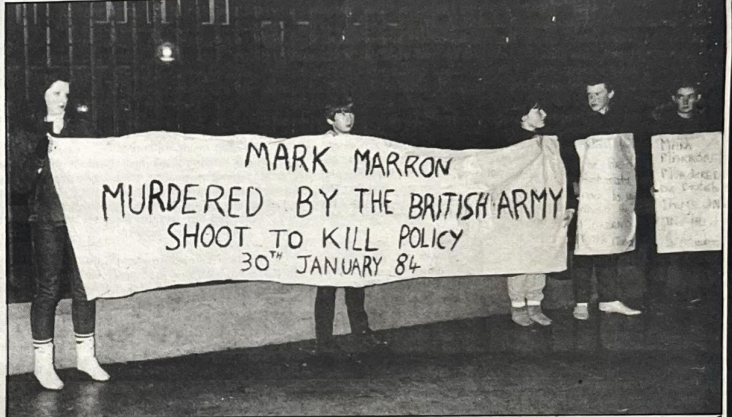
In Derry, as elsewhere, witnesses described seeing unarmed men and women deliberately shot, often in ambushes and without warning, in several instances by plainclothes SAS units.

STANDARDS

In Belfast, on Monday, the first person to give testimony was Steven Greer, a Cobden Trust research student at Queen's University Belfast, who criticised in severe terms the North's judiciary who, he said, applied 'different standards' when trying members of the crown forces.

A former worker in the voluntary ambulance service, Gerald McGivern, testified that, in his experience of lethal shooting incidents:

"In the majority of cases they turn away the civilian ambulance or stop it on the way to the hospital to ask for the name and other details of the victim."



● Twenty members of Fianna Éireann (Republican Youth Movement) picketed the British Embassy in Merrion Road, Dublin, on Thursday, February 2nd, to protest at the death of Mark Marron, a 23-year-old nationalist shot dead by the British army in Belfast last week



● A picket was held outside the London office of Northern direct-ruler James Prior on Wednesday week, February 1st, in protest at the deaths of Northern nationalists at the hands of the British army, UDR and RUC; those on the picket included the Troops Out Movement, the Labour Committee on Ireland, the Young Liberals, and the Irish in Britain Representation Group

The final incident examined by the tribunal occurred in October 1971, when British soldiers opened fire on a car in which sisters Dorothy Maguire and Maura Meehan were passengers, shooting both in the back of the head.

Maura Meehan's sister-in-law, Margaret Murray, described the cover-up which was conducted by the British army, who stated that the women were 'dressed as terror-

ists' and had been throwing nail bombs.

Several years later, Margaret Murray added, both these claims were shown to be nonsense at the inquest and, though a Brit officer admitted to the court that he had given orders to shoot to kill, an open verdict was returned.

The inquiry, which is now considering the mass of testimony, was chaired by Kadar Asmal, president of the Irish Council for

Civil Liberties. Other members are Geoffrey Bindman, a British solicitor specialising in human rights issues, John Brittan, professor at the University of Connecticut Law School (USA), and Michel Zavrian, advocate of the Paris Court of Appeal.

The panel hopes to publish a report, together with recommendations which it will be submitting to the British Government, within two months.



Prior's paid perjurers

A Chaires.
In the aftermath of the Gifford report and the release of RUC man McCormick, the spotlight is once again on the discredited paid-perjurer system. Gifford's comprehensive report has completely exposed the dangers inherent in the use of the paid perjurer and has nullified the arguments put forward by the apologists of a corrupt system.

Charles McCormick's release clearly illustrates the double standards employed by the loyalist judiciary on the question of uncorroborated evidence — more importantly it shows that the application of law has been further perverted since McCormick's original conviction, when the judge said that in law he required corroboration to convict — to the present day where in recent show trials numerous people have been convicted on uncorroborated evidence.

This perversion of justice would not be tolerated in English courts where the DPP will not even contemplate issuing proceedings unless there is a high degree of compelling corroboration available to back up an accomplice's evidence.

This policy was clearly stated by the British Attorney General, Havers, who when questioned as to why a large number of Metropolitan Police officers, named by an accomplice as being involved in large scale theft and fraud, were not charged, stated:

"If it is merely one crook's word against that of a policeman, or anyone else, I would not prosecute in the absence of corroboration."

These facts dispel Prior's assertion that the same law is practised in the North as in England.

Prior, as direct ruler, is responsible for the corrupt judicial system that is guilty of making political convictions in the notorious Diplock courts and his Pontius Pilate attempt to distance himself from the obnoxious paid-perjurer system should be treated with the contempt it deserves.

Kevin Mulgrew,
H7-Block,
Long Kesh.

Dundalk cover-up?

A Chaires.
Further to your article *Dundalk cover-up?* (February 2nd), it is important to point out that the Garda case at the inquest into the death of my brother, Martin Beattie, centred on an assumption that he was in need of psychiatric treatment before his death in a Garda cell.

This followed an incident on July 3rd last when Martin was taken to hospital after taking an overdose of pain-killing tablets. On his release, one doctor advised him to seek psychiatric treatment, but when he consulted his own doctor he was told that this was quite unnecessary.

At the inquest, only the doctor who advised treatment was called to give evidence and the coroner dismissed a suggestion from counsel for the family that the other doctor be called as well. The coroner's objection was simply that the inquest would "last all day" if another witness was

mála poist

A Chaires.

The letter from Diane Sienoz, USA (AP/RN, January 12th), reveals a certain amount of understandable confusion over the terminology used to articulate the republican standpoint on cultural oppression.

The use of the term Anglo-American to describe the culture prevalent in Ireland, and controlled by the British and other imperialist powers, is not meant to imply, as Diane suggests, that "English and American culture are one and the same". It is simply another word for what is generally known as 'Coca Cola culture'.

This Coca Cola culture entails a way of life based on a set of values which are alien to Ireland and detrimental to the Irish people. Coca Cola culture makes supreme a mythical *Dallas* type of existence while the indigenous language, traditions etc are spurned and a slave mentality engendered.

The values this culture upholds include consumerism, sexism, racism, individualism, competition between people and the belief that a small minority should rule the rest of the population. Such values are obviously in opposition to Irish republican values such as brotherhood, co-operation, socialism, equality and a belief in human dignity. The Irish people have no control over this Coca Cola culture but in fact are exploited by it.

There are three main reasons for the growth of this Anglo-American culture since 1945, when the USA became the dominant world power. They are:

1. The need for multinational corporations to control the media of other countries so that they can promote consumerist attitudes and values and expand markets;

2. The need for the British and US communications industry to sell its products;

3. The use of Anglo-American culture by pro-imperialist countries as a means of controlling people.

Who benefits?

A Chaires.

The implementation of the new housing benefits scheme in the North, in November 1983, has caused widespread chaos, confusion and suffering, among both its recipients and those responsible for its administration.

Despite having been introduced almost three months ago, with the promise that benefit would be paid within 14 days of application, many claimants had to wait four to six weeks, and others are still waiting. For those in private accommodation, this has meant threats of eviction by landlords, debts incurred through borrowing money to pay the rent, and going without necessities such as food and heating in order to meet housing costs.

The introduction of housing benefit now means that the DHSS is no longer responsible for people's housing costs; these are now met by the Housing Executive.

All those claiming supplementary benefit are now known as 'certified cases'.

All those on low incomes and those above the standard needs allowance set by the DHSS — which is £43.05 for a single person, £63.50 for a couple or single parent plus £12.90 per child (from November 1984), and still way below average earnings — are known as 'standard cases'.

It is almost impossible to calculate, without the help of a computer, what 'standard cases' should be receiving due to the incredible complexity of the scheme.

As yet, there have been no appeal cases against the system, due, perhaps, to the procedure being extremely lengthy and taking anything up to six months.

Now Thatcher's government is introducing legislation to cut

COCA COLA CULTURE



● A cartoon, from the British magazine 'Punch', entitled 'The height of impudence'

1. The need for multinational corporations to control the media of other countries so that they can promote consumerist attitudes and values and expand markets;

2. The need for the British and US communications industry to sell its products;

3. The use of Anglo-American culture by pro-imperialist countries as a means of controlling people.

Anglo-American culture is promoted in Ireland by a media which is in the hands of capitalists firmly opposed to Irish freedom. Television, which has a tremendous influence on the moulding of people's attitudes and behaviour, is a particularly powerful weapon in the imperialist armoury.

The 'national' television service, RTE, imports the majority

of its programmes from the US and Britain, while its treatment of Irish culture is typified by the fact that the two TV channels between them do not provide even one substantial programme in Irish per day.

It is understandable that Diane Sienoz was confused by the term Anglo-American, for the whole area of cultural imperialism is one which republicans in general are only now becoming aware of. The need for cultural resistance is also being accepted more and more as it becomes clear that cultural imperialism is an obstacle to Irish self-determination and sovereignty. As a countryman of Diane's, and an expert on communications, Professor Herbert Schiller of the University of California has said:

"Communications have become a major obstacle to national construction. They have been seized by the commanding interests in the market economy to promote narrow national and international objectives while simultaneously making alternative paths seem either undesirable or preventing their existence from becoming known. The influence and importance of communications in a complex mass society needs constant re-evaluating."

It is up to republicans to lead that re-telling.

Maigín O'Muilleoir,
Roinn an Chultúir,
Sinn Féin,
Beal Feirste.



● Under Thatcher's rule, the rich get richer and the poor get poorer

shake his hand or respond to his big bear-hug like the FitzGerald did to the Kissingers.

Our reverend Archbishop of Dublin, Dr Ryan, will no doubt grace the various functions with his presence, as he did when George Bush visited, but sure that's understandable. Did not His Holiness Pope John Paul bless the American Marines from the Lebanon at an audience in Rome recently, and praise them for their role as 'peace-keepers' in that country?

Let's hope Bishop Casey makes some gesture of protest during Reagan's visit or forever hold his peace about atrocities in El Salvador.

The fact that Reagan, by his current policy in El Salvador, and in the rest of Central America, is causing immeasurable suffering and death will not deter our leaders from making a spectacle of themselves.

What of America's recent invasion of Grenada, and its subsequent death-toll, on the pretext that Reagan *suspected* the Cubans were establishing a military base there.

Worst of all, this US president is prepared, in conjunction with that other frequent welcome visitor Margaret Thatcher, to blast US Europeans off the face of the earth in his so-called 'limited

protest'.

And did he not stand calculatingly by ten brave Irish men died painful deaths on hunger-strike seeking prisoner of war status?

These same dignitaries who will be ingratiating themselves with Reagan have consistently refused to meet Sinn Féin representatives such as Gerry Adams, elected MP for West Belfast.

Hypocrites!

The so-called leadership of the twenty-six counties for the past decades have allowed us to be played as a pawn in the international power game. They have consistently sold us out, both economically and politically, such as EEC entry and their refusal to lay the blame for the Northern crisis where it should be laid — on successive ruthless British

governments.

When are we Irish going to rid ourselves of the 'Croppy, lie down!' mentality?

Sile Ni Neill,
Dublin.

Out of order

A Chaires.

Cobh Sinn Féin is presently circulating a petition calling on the urban district council to withdraw the charges they have imposed on the people of Cobh for refuse collection and water.

We feel that charges for these services are totally out of order. People who have been means-tested and those on social welfare benefits have enough to cope with, struggling against the rising prices of clothes, food, fuel and trying to save money for ESB bills, without having to shoulder yet another burden.

PRO,
Cobh Sinn Féin,
County Cork.



● FRA BROWNE

Louth centre

A Chaires.

Louth Sinn Féin have reopened their advice centre and offices at 57a Clanbrassil Street, Dundalk, following extensive refurbishment.

Sinn Féin believe that these premises will be a great asset in serving the needs of the people of County Louth.

The inclusion of Councillor Fra Browne's constituency clinic in Clanbrassil Street is part of Sinn Féin's policy for members and elected representatives to be available to the people on a full-time basis.

The offices/advice centre will be open from Monday to Saturday between the hours of 10am and 12 noon, and 2pm and 5pm.

Recent media attacks by both the Labour Party and Fine Gael have not been a deterrent, but rather a spur to Sinn Féin to establish themselves as the strongest political voice of the people.

The opening of these offices together with the recent influx of new members in County Louth, augurs well for Sinn Féin's political future in County Louth.

Malachy Foote,
Louth comhairle ceantair.

Stamps of resistance

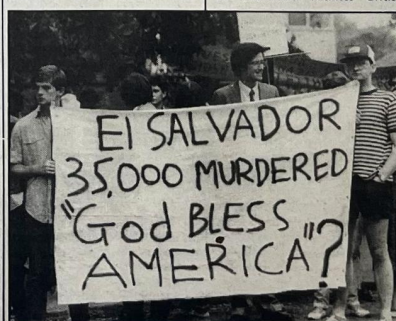
A Chaires.

I am a private stamp collector and I wonder whether any of AP/RN's readers could help me in my search for some particular stamps.

Around the year 1918, and sporadically after that, republican sympathisers within the GPO over-printed some government-issue stamps with the name of Sinn Féin as a sign of their resistance to British rule.

I am now looking for samples of these stamps and I would be willing to purchase them for any sum within reason. All replies to the address below please.

Joseph Finn,
6 Mount George,
Wexford.



● Thousands have died in Central America at the hands of right-wing regimes and death squads defending Reagan's idea of a 'free world'

BURKE'S AT THE BACK

By Kevin Burke

IT HAS to be admitted that judges, bedecked in wig and gown, can sometimes be viewed in a very cold and impersonal way, and it is only right that we should look at their backgrounds occasionally to see them as real human beings.

Take Judge Herbert McWilliam, for example, who last week, in the Dublin High Court, ordered the extradition of Monaghan man Seamus Shannon.

His lordship is in fact himself a native of Monaghan and, before being elevated to the bench, like many another lawyer, dabbled in politics.

In the general election of 1957, Herbert McWilliam stood as a Fine Gael candidate in the Monaghan constituency, as running-mate to the subsequent leader of Fine Gael, James Dillon.

McWilliam, himself a Protestant, was meant to pick up the strong Protestant/unionist vote in the area, but, in the end, only amassed 425 votes before being eliminated on the first count.

In the same election, Eamon O hAnluain, a brother of the late Fergal O'Hanlon, won a seat for Sinn Fein with 4,791 first preferences.

That was the first and last time that McWilliam hit the election trail, unlike the Chief Justice, TF O'Higgins, who is beginning the consideration of the McMahon extradition case in the Supreme Court this week.

As plain Dr O'Higgins, the present chief justice represented Laois/Offaly and then Dublin South County for Fine Gael between 1948 and 1973, giving de Valera a scare in the presidential election of 1966 and battling unsuccessfully against Erskine Childers in 1971.

Of course, their lordships can be relied upon not to allow political considerations to intrude on judicial decisions, but a bit of background information on those in the news is always of interest.

★★★★

Much amusement at a West Belfast chapel last Sunday morning when Gerry Adams MP was called on by the priest to take charge of one of the offertory plates.

The fund for which the republican apparitor walked the aisle was the 'bishop's collection'.

Rumours that the faithful felt obliged to make more than usually generous donations, from which protection money was then deducted, have been dismissed as black propaganda.

★★★★

One spin-off of Sinn Fein's much-discussed advice centre work has been the springing up of advice centres on almost every street-corner of Belfast.

The Catholic Church now has advice centres, the (Building) Workers Party has opened advice centres, and the SDLP has advice centres (although having difficulty actually opening regularly).

The fortunate local people are now spoilt for choice at the unprecedented number of advisors available.

★★★★

Whilst most people believe that the Ronald Reagan visit to Ireland in June is to ensure the election of the geriatric ex-actor to another presidential term, others have different ideas.

SDLP leader John Hume believes that the visit — a week before the EEC elections — could be more beneficial to his own re-election. Consequently, he is using all his US contacts to try and ensure a brief meeting between himself and Reagan during the visit, a rather longer photo-call, and perhaps even some vague commendation for the Forum report.

It appears that the SDLP's brief flirtation with youth is already over.

★★★★

Tipex — that invaluable correcting fluid — was employed with some urgency to the SDLP's completed annual conference agenda booklet before the recent gathering in Belfast's Forum Hotel.

A message from party leader John Hume, at the beginning of the booklet, ended: "I would like to thank you all for your hard work and (Tipped) dedication."

The blanked-out word, when uncovered

Before the bench



● The SDLP's advice centre on the Falls Road has failed to sustain its early promise — now even the notice of opening hours has been removed

by curious delegates, was 'selfish'.
A Human error, no doubt.

★★★★

The Brits have never let their total non-understanding of Irish affairs prevent them from lecturing the Paddies on what they should be doing.

And so it is with the economics magazine *Land and Liberty*, a London publication which proudly boasts that it has been around since 1894.

In its current edition, the magazine pontificates — from London — on *Sinn Fein* and the *land of Ireland*.

The article begins by examining the phenomenon of Sinn Fein's electoral successes and then goes on to examine what policies Sinn Fein has "apart from getting shot of the British".

The author takes the party's land policy — as set out in a 1981 document — and dissects and destroys that policy, concluding that it is a load of rubbish.

At the end of the article, we are told what the policy document so scientifically considered is.

It is entitled *The Land for the People*, and is published by the 'Research Section of Sinn Fein The Workers Party'!

★★★★

According to the National Council for Civil Liberties in Britain, the Home Office has sanctioned the use of hypnosis during the investigation of crimes.

They point to the risks of suggestion being used as part of the process and give the example of an innocent man in Durham who was charged with, but acquitted of, murder after agreeing to help the police by undergoing

hypnosis as a potential witness to the killing.

★★★★

Shannon Mail Order in the Duty Free Zone of Shannon Airport obviously feels no obligation to the twenty-six county economy for its privileged status which exempts it from VAT, duties and tax on profits.

In its current catalogue — which offers a range of gifts from china to glassware to jewellery to perfume — Shannon Mail Order offers its US customers 19 pages of Irish-made goods and 32 pages of foreign-made goods, mostly British.

And on page 36 is a selection of miniature dolls from 'one of England's leading doll-makers', which includes the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, Queen Elizabeth and 'Princess of Wales with young Prince William', each for about 40 dollars.

"A delightful gift for all ages," Shannon Mail Order informs us.

★★★★

According to official British statistics, the current British troop-levels in the North stand at 9,516, with 7,111 UDR members and 12,527 RUC personnel.

That is a total of almost 30,000 armed crown forces engaged in repression in Ireland.

The number of British army soldiers is claimed to be at its lowest level in 12 years, but has been more than compensated for in the rise in uniformed loyalists enlisted under the Ulsterisation policy.

The figures emphasise the necessity of ensuring that final British withdrawal also includes the disarmament and disbanding of these heavily armed sectarian thugs.

★★★★

The RUC checkpoints set up around an Omagh hotel in the early hours of last Thursday morning, February 2nd, might well have caused patrons to surmise that the crown forces had cornered H-Block escapee Brendan McFarlane.

In fact, it was nothing more than the regular harassment of young people going home from a late-night dance.

Objections were raised and a number of arrests and assaults by the RUC followed.

By far the worst experience was suffered by a 23-year-old Ardree farmer, who was arrested for refusing to lift soaking wet materials out of the boot of his car. He was punched, dragged and kicked into a Land Rover where his hair was tugged and his face slapped.

However, worse than the beatings was the journey to the barracks, when the RUC men attempted, without success, to get him to join in a chorus of *The Men Behind the Wire*.

"It was sheer torture. They hadn't a note in their heads," complained their battered and bruised victim.



WHAT'S ON

BUSES FOR MONAGHAN EXTRADITION RALLY
Saturday 11th February

BELFAST
Leave Republican Press Centre
Seavestop Street
at 12 noon

DUBLIN
Leave 5 Blessington Street
at 11am (seats must be booked
in advance due to large
number of people going —
phone 308783)
Taille E4

VOL FRANK STAGG COMMEMORATION
(8th Anniversary)

1pm Sunday 12th February
Wakefield Prison
Love Lane
WAKEFIELD
Yorkshire
England
Organised by Sinn Fein

SINN FEIN & REPUBLICANISM

PUBLIC MEETING
Speaker: Gerry Adams MP
8pm Thursday 16th February
Milford Inn
MILFORD
County Donegal
Questions will be invited
from the floor

WELCOME HOME KEVIN DUNPHY SOCIAL
Featuring Davitt's Revised

8.30pm Friday 17th February
Cha O'Neill's
WATERFORD
Taille E2 (unwaged E1)

MEETING AGAINST CRIMINAL JUSTICE BILL & EXTRADITION

3pm Sunday 19th February
Grand Hotel
TRALEE
County Kerry
Everyone welcome

PRESENTATION DANCE

(For Ann & Ellen Gillespie and
Ray McLaughlin, recently released
republican POWs from English jails)
10pm Thursday 23rd February
Milford Inn
MILFORD
County Donegal
Taille E2.50
Guest speaker: Danny Morrison

PRESENTATION DINNER & DANCE

(For Ruairi O'Bradaigh &
Deithi O'Connell)
Friday 24th February
Castle Hotel
BELLINGHAM
County Louth
Taille E11
Tickets from Mary Duff, 46
Sleevefoot Park, Dundalk

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

DELEGATION TO ARMAGH
Travels from London on Friday,
March 30th, returns Monday, March 12th
Accommodation provided in Belfast
Approximate cost £45
For details contact London
Armagh Co-ordinating Group
374 Gray's Inn Road, WC1
Phone 289 378 (Maggie)

Draw results

An Cumann Cabhrach, Dublin
January: £100: 192; £50: 376; £25:
332; £10: 10 & 273; £5: 67, 74, 77, 136,
288 & 325.

Ballyfermot/Inchicore Sinn Fein, Dublin
January: £100: Myliey Cullen; £50:
Joe Egan; £25: John Heddes; £10: C.
Cathy, Chris White, Antho Byrne,
Mick Murphy & Teresa Jones; £5: Matt
Hennessey, Mick Roche, Ann Doyle,
Brian Hean & M. Blount.

Shannon Sinn Fein
Week 14: £25: 21; £10: 82; £5: 1.
Week 15 (Christmas): £25: 40; £10:
41; £5: 82; biscuits: 74.

West Belfast Sinn Fein
January: £200: Matt Murphy, c/o
Andersonstown Social Club; £100: Mr
Rogers, Brooke Park; £50: A. Donnelly,
Ardmore Avenue. (Tickets for the
February draw may be obtained from
Sinn Fein advice centres.)

WANTED

COPIES of the first and second editions
of *IRIS* — the republican magazine — are
sought to complete collection. Willing
to pay going price. Replies to B. Etti-
man (Shannon), c/o AP/RN, 44 Parnell
Square, Dublin 1.

TV & RADIO

Closed minds

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

DERRY City Council's decision to officially change its name from 'Londonderry' City Council was the subject of BBC's *Spotlight* on Friday, February 3rd.

Apart from interviewing councillors, *Spotlight* talked to people on the street, people coming out of Mass, and a group in a church after service.

The nationalists, understandably, were delighted by the name-change, but unionists interviewed saw it as an undermining of their position of privilege.

The fact that most of the people who were opposed to the name-change were interviewed inside, in closed rooms, emphasised the closed minds and siege mentality that hinders progress in the North.

One man, one of the group in the church, was asked did it not reflect the wishes of the majority in the city and replied:

"The majority in Cape Town (South Africa) are outside the city. What if the people in the shantytowns came into Cape Town? What would Cape Town be like then?"

What indeed.

Folio, on RTE1 on Sunday,

a repeat of the previous Tuesday's programme, had Patrick Gallagher interviewing Fay Weldon, author of many books about women.

Patrick Gallagher seemed to be personally insulted by the books' "fiercely feminist" views, and asked Fay Weldon why she "gave accounts of men's actions and didn't justify them, while every word and action of women is explained". Weldon gently pointed out that as she was a woman it was natural that she wrote from a woman's point of view.

Asked by Gallagher what advice she would give to Irish women, she said that she could not tell women in Ireland what their problems were but she knew that women here "have a hard time".

At this point, several heavy objects crashed to the floor somewhere in the background. A comment by the camera men perhaps?

Patrick Gallagher has that habit, common to many RTE presenters, of constantly cutting across his guest to express his



● A black soldier leads an attack on demonstrators in Belfast; in Channel 4's *Black on Black*, rights activist Kwame Toure called on black soldiers to refuse to serve in the North

view on the question asked. It is the interviewers on such programmes that viewers want to hear, not the interviewees.

...

On *Saturday View*, on RTE Radio 1 on February 4th, Pat Kenny was also anxious that his view was known.

During a discussion on the visit of Britain's Prince Philip to the UDR base at Drumad, County Armagh (where eight UDR men charged with the murder of Catholics were stationed), he butted in with:

"But none of them have

been convicted of murder yet." To which Fianna Fáil's Niall Andrews replied: *"And they never will be either."*

Nuala O'Faolain was also on *Saturday View*, and whilst she was totally in support of the parents of Colin McStay, the baby who needs a liver transplant, and delighted that this child will have the operation that could save his life, she made the point that the facilities should be there for every child to get the life-saving treatment they need without having to make their case pub-

lic and appeal for the necessary funds.

...

Channel 4's *Black on Black* is described in *TV Times* as "News, people, events and music from black people at home and abroad". On Tuesday, January 31st, Kwame Toure, the black rights activist formerly known as Stokely Carmichael, during a live TV link-up with America, called on black soldiers in the British army to refuse to serve in Ireland.

Toure, who was recently barred from entering Britain,

said that black soldiers in the North should lay down their arms and realise that the oppressor was Britain. The Irish, he said, had never done any harm to the African people.

During a visit to Britain in September 1983, Toure said:

"Africa has been raped and plundered by every Western country except Ireland. When Ireland is involved in a struggle with British imperialism, consequently it is our job to aid them in their struggle."

It was after this speech that he was refused entry to Britain for a ten-day speaking tour.

Tógáilt chinn ag Ultaigh

LE PÁDRAIG MACGIBÚIN

"'Sí an litridheacht an aon slighe amháin 'na sábháilfear canamhaint Chúige Uladh agus ina dtabharfar tógáilt chinn dúinn..." Muireadhach Meith, An t-Ultaigh, 1924.

Ba é an 'Muireadhach Meith', nó an tAthair Lorcán Ó Muireadhach, an fear a bhunaigh An t-Ultaigh seasca bliain ó shin, a scríobh na focail seo thuas. Rinne an sagart cion fir ar son na Gaeilge i gCúige Uladh i gcoitinne. Chomh maith leis "An t-Ultaigh" a bhunú, ba é fosta a bhunaigh Coláiste Bhríghde, Rann na Feirste, i dtír Chonnail. Chruinnigh sé fosta seanamhráin ó na cainteoirí dúchais dheireanacha in Ó Meith agus i nDeisceart Ard Mhacha; mhair an Gaeilge i gCraic Mhíoc Linnóin go dtí an oíche seo.

Foilsíodh an cnasach seo *Measca Uladh* 2 in onóir do

i mbliain chomórtha a bhreithe. Cuireadh le dháile e ag coiste An t-Ultaigh agus sa réamhrá deir Mícheál Ó Máirtín, an t-eagarthóir:

"Cumhdafonn an díolaim seo chéir a bheith gach uile ghné de Shaocht na Gaeilge..."

Agus ar ndóigh, ní thiocfaid é sin a shéanadh. Tá níos mó na tríocha dreach itididir ghearrscálta, aistríocháin ar ghearrscálta a scríobhadh sa Bhreathnais agus sa Ioslainnis, díolaim bheag fhíliochta, síochanna sa uirscálta dúit-eacha (*"Rotha Mór an tSáil"*, *"An Brann an Cur"*, *"Ionraic"*, *"Cnoc na hUamha"*) agus araille.

LEABHAR

Ní féidir achan alt a lua anseo, ach i measc na n-altanna a bhain mé féin súil astu bhí ceann a scríobh an Dochtúir Séamas Ó Catháin (fear a bhí le teacht go Béal Feirste mar ollamh ar Roinn na Ceiltise in Ollscoil na Ríona ach gur cuireadh "tír bhagairtha" chuige ón UFF cúpla bliain ó shin) dar teideal *Dúileadh Roinnt Scálta De Chuid AT 1699: Misunderstanding Because of Ignorance of a Foreign Language* ina dtugann sé roinnt samplaí dúinn, scálta greannmhara ar ndóigh, a thaispeáinn an mhífhuiscint a d'éirigh idir lucht na Gaeilge agus lucht an Bhéarla.

Ta alt eile ann a scríobh



● LORCÁN Ó MUIREADHAIGH

fear a raibh tionchar ag an Athair Ó Muireadhach air maidir i dtaca le síl bheatha de, mar

atá, an Cairdiúil Tomás Ó Fiaich. Lucht atá ann a thug sé ag an Oireachtas i nGaoth Dobhair i 1977.

NEART

Cé go raibh cúpla alt sa chnuasacht seo ag 'lucht léinn' do 'lucht léinn' gheobhadh an gnáthleitheoir neart ann a mbainfidh sé suilt as.

In alt a scríobh se le dísáil san *Irish Times* dar teideal *An Taibheas Laistigh* cuireann Alan Taitley (scríbhneoir agus léirmheastóir atá ina cheann ar Roinn na Gaeilge i gColáiste Phádraig, Droim Conrach) an cheist:

"An rud seo, litríocht na Gaeilge... cad is fiú 'a léamh?"

Agus mar threagra deir sé: *"Tugann an litríocht comhthéacs don teanga. Tugann sí cead síúil, cead eiltite, cead raide, is rangais di."*

Tugadh sin di sa leabhar seo.

● *Measca Uladh* 2, curtha in eagar le Mícheál Ó Máirtín, eilidóir R & S Muineacháin a d'fhoilsigh do choiste An t-Ultaigh, luach Stg£7 (clúdach cruas).

Crisis time for the Irish language

CONRADH na Gaeilge has organised an important convention of representatives from Irish language and cultural organisations in order to plan a united campaign to deal with the crisis facing the Irish language and the Gaeltacht.

Thirty-four organisations and institutions have been invited to attend the convention, which takes place in Dublin this weekend.

It is envisaged that a new committee — Comhoiste na Gaeilge — will be established and will undertake a series of national campaigns to strengthen the Irish language in practical ways, with special emphasis on local activity.

I measc na n-eagraíochtaí tá An Cumann Lúthleas Gael, Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, Comhdháil Náisiunta na Gaeilge, eagraíochtaí oideachais, óige, eaglasta agus Gaeltachta chomh maith le saineagraíochtaí ar leith eile.

IRISH WATCH

And on Tuesday this week, Conradh na Gaeilge launched the first ever Irish-language watch. Similar watches are available in Britany and Wales. Twelve thousand Welsh-language watches have already been sold.

The quartz digital watch, with Irish inscription, costs £4.50 (or £5 by post) from Conradh na Gaeilge, 6 Harcourt Street, Dublin.

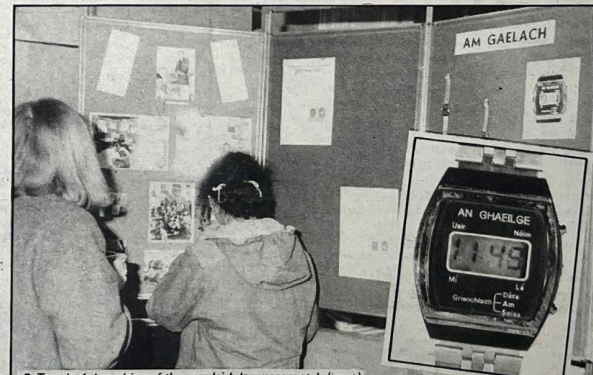
BBC's DISMAL RECORD

The BBC, which announced the 1984 membership of its six-county broadcasting council and advisory committees this week, has come in for strong criticism from Belfast Sinn Féin for its 'blatant neglect' of the Irish language and culture.

Calling attention to the dismal record of the BBC as regards Irish language programmes in particular, Belfast comhairle limistéir challenged the BBC to state whether they looked upon Irish as a living language.

This latest attack echoes growing discontent among Gaeilgeoirí at the BBC's failure to provide even a basic beginner's course for Irish which was promised back in January 1980. In fact, the entire Irish language content of BBC radio and television consists of a 15-minute arts-style radio programme, *Anois* — not being transmitted at the moment — which is broadcast once a week for about six months of the year.

However, when launching *Anois*, in April 1981, the BBC's controller of programmes,



● Tuesday's launching of the new Irish-language watch (inset)

Sir James Hawthorne, made it clear that the programme was not aimed at promoting the use of Irish in everyday life. He said:

"This language (Irish) is not heard on the streets of Belfast or Derry, but people are interested in it."

THE third anniversary of the death of IRA Volunteer Peadar Mohan, of Clontarf, County Monaghan, was commemorated by a ceremony at his graveside on Sunday last, February 5th. Organised by Monaghan Sinn Féin, a wreath was laid by Malachy Woods, chairperson of the Peadar Mohan Sinn Féin cumann, Ballybay.

A decade of the rosary in Irish was recited by Pádraig Ó Baighlinn. The ceremony was chaired by Caoimhín Ó Caelain, chairperson of Sinn Féin in Monaghan town.

COMMITMENT

The oration was given by Dessus O Cianann of Tydavnet.

O Cianann spoke at length of Peadar's deep-rooted commitment to the cause of Irish freedom. Linking the selflessness of Peadar to his brother Pádraig, a prisoner in Portlaoise, O Cianann described the two brothers as epitomising the strength of families who were dedicated to achieving an end to British imperialism and capitalist rule in Ireland. Quoting Pearse, he continued:

Monaghan ceremony



● Dessus O Cianann reads the oration at Vol Peadar Mohan's commemoration

"Ireland unarmed would attain just as much freedom as it was convenient for England to give her. Ireland armed would attain ultimately just as much

freedom as she wanted."

The ceremony was attended by Peadar's parents, brothers and sister and over 100 local supporters.

REMEMBERING THE PAST Dublin Disturbances

BY PETER O'ROURKE

ON AUGUST 31st 1913, during the 'Great Lock-out' of workers, the police made a brutal attack on people in Dublin streets, injuring scores of them, after James Larkin successfully addressed a meeting from the Imperial Hotel in O'Connell Street.

Such had been the public outcry at the brutal assaults that a Dublin Disturbances Commission was established to hear evidence from civilians and police.

But those naive enough to expect impartiality from the Commission were to be disillusioned. Of the 281 witnesses, 202 were policemen. Despite firm evidence of police brutality — a large group of policemen had carried out an attack on Corporation Buildings in the early hours of the morning, battering inhabitants and smashing up rooms — the report of the Commission, published in early 1914, indicated that the whole exercise had merely been to justify the conduct of the police.

The report described the conduct

of the police as 'admirable', though it was admitted that "in some instances assaults were committed without just cause". Substantial evidence from eyewitnesses and victims was completely disregarded by the Commission, evidence such as that of a man who claimed to a group of policemen that one of the number had broken the windows of houses and was thereupon knocked down in the presence of his wife and children. If he wished, the Commission suggested, he could pursue his complaint in the civil courts.

The report of the Dublin Disturbances Commission into the events of August 31st 1913 was published on February 9th 1914, 70 years ago this week.

Irish Lesson

ard (awrd) — tall
tanaf (tane) — thin
deas (dass) — nice
crosta (krustuh) cross
of dhé (kay hay) — who?
píosa (peeshuh) — a piece
máinn (kyown) — one (thing), also a head
rud (rud) — a thing
duine (dineh) — a person
tabhair dom (tower dum) — give me

THE pronunciation given in brackets is as near as possible to the sound.
C is sounded as in LOCHRENE.
D and T before A, O and U are thick, spoken with the tongue pressed against the upper front teeth.
DH and GH are like a G far back in the throat almost a gurgle.

ná tabhair dó (naw tower doe) — don't give him
Cé hian fear? — Who is the tall man?
Tabhair dom a píosa máir — Give me the big piece.
Tabhair dó an ceann bíu — Give him the yellow one.
Tá an madra ann — The dog is there.
Bhí an múinteoir deas ar scoil inniu — The nice teacher was at school today.
Ná tabhair dó an rud beag — Don't give

him the little thing.
Bhí an madra tanaf ar an mbothar — The thin dog was on the road.
Cé hian fear a fuair bás? — Who is the man who died?
Cé hian duine crosta sin? — Who is that cross person?

PHRASES

1 — Ná tabhair cairde dó (naw tower kordyeh doe) — Don't give him credit.
2 — Tabhair dom do lámh (tower dum duh law) — Give me your hand.
3 — Tabhair bronnantas deas di (tower bronnantas dass dee) — Give her a nice present.
4 — Bíodh píosa cáille agat (beesh peesh káille agut) — Have a bit of sense.

In August, Love from your brother, sister-in-law and niece.
O'HAGAN, John. (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, brother. See you in August, for you do look lovely when you're thin. Love from sister Marie, Joe and kids.
O'HAGAN, John. (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, brother. See you soon, and I hope you come back to me this time. Love from sister Grace and kids.
O'HAGAN, John. (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, John. See you soon, and I hope you're ever-loving ES.
McMULLAN, Danny. (2nd Anniversary). Happy birthday, darling. Please turn back the New Lodge Celtic. Love from me and the boys.
O'NEILL, Eddie. (Brixton). Belated birthday greetings for January 26th, which lots of mine from your mother, father, brothers, sisters and all your friends.
SMITH, Claran. (H7). There are better ways to meet nurses. Get better quick. Love from Gerlie.

missed by Willie and Terri McDaid.
MCCORMACK, An cumann Cabhrach, Walsington, Dublin, extends sincere sympathy to the wife and family of the late Hughie McCormack, Dublin.
SULLIVAN, The Tony Aherne Sinn Féin cumann, Manchester, extends heartfelt sympathy to the wife and family of our friend and comrade Mick Sullivan, who died on Saturday, February 4th. Go ndána Dia trocáire ar a h-anam.
SULLIVAN, Deepest sympathy is extended to the wife, family and friends of our friend and comrade Mick Sullivan, who died at the weekend. Ar dheis é go raib a h-anam. From Gerry Small and Joan Kavanagh.
THORNBURY, West Belfast Sinn Féin

BAILEY, Sean. (8th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Sean Bailey, Belfast. Oglagh na hÉireann, who died in action on February 12th 1976. Fuair sé bás as troid ar son mhuintir na hÉireann. Never forgotten by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

BAILEY, Sean. (8th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Sean 'Stu' Bailey who was killed in action on February 12th 1976. "Our freedom must be had at all hazards. If the men of property will not help us, they must fail, we will free ourselves by the aid of that large respectable class, the men of no property." Always remembered by his comrades in the Cages and H-Blocks of Long Kesh, Crumlin Road and Armagh.

BURNS, James. (40th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol James 'Rocky' Burns, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed in action on February 12th 1944. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. Always remembered by Gráinne Burns and family.

CUNNINGHAM, Joseph. (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our son Vol Joseph Cunningham, who was killed on active service on February 10th 1972. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. Deeply regretted by his mother and father, Roseleen and Tom my Cunningham.

CUNNINGHAM, Joseph. (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear brother Vol Joseph Cunningham, 3rd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on February 10th 1972. The dust of some Irish earth, among their own they rest, and the same land that gave them birth, has caught them to her breast, and we will pray that from their clay, full many a race will start; of true men like you, Joe, to act as brave a part. Always remembered by his loving sister Rosemary.

CUNNINGHAM, Joseph. (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our brother Joseph, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died on active service on February 10th 1972. Fuair sé bás ar son saoirse na hÉireann. Always remembered by Marian, Tony (Portlaoise) and family.

CUNNINGHAM, Joseph. (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my only brother Vol Joseph Cunningham, who was killed in action on February 10th 1972. "While Ireland holds these graves, Ireland unfree shall never be at peace." Never forgotten by Gerry and Kathleen Cunningham.

DOLAN, Bridie. (30th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Bridie Dolan, Belfast Brigade, Cumann na mBan, who died on active service on February 13th 1975. Thus 's' a raib aich ar son saoirse. Always remembered by her friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

FITZSIMMONS, Vivien; O'HANLON, Leo. (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Vivien Fitzsimmons, Cumann na mBan, and Leo O'Hanlon, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died as a result of a petrol explosion while on active service on February 10th 1973. Thus laid a raib aich ar son saoirse na hÉireann. Always remembered by their friends and comrades in the Republican Movement, Downpatrick.

FITZSIMMONS, Vivien; O'HANLON, Leo. (11th Anniversary). O'HANLON, Leo. (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Leo O'Hanlon Sinn Féin cumann, Downpatrick, remembers with pride Vol Vivien Fitzsimmons, Leo O'Hanlon, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died on active service on February 10th 1973. Fuair sé bás ar son saoirse na hÉireann.

HANNAWAY, Liam. (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Liam Hannaway, who died on February 2nd 1981. Always remembered by Liam, Peter and Paul, Lurgan.

McMULLAN, Danny. (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear son Vol Danny McMullan, Irish Republican Army, who died as a result of a road accident on February 7th 1982. A flower has gone from my wreath of twelve, my Donal, brave and true, sleep on, brave rebel, till one day, we'll once again meet you, Mary, Queen of Ireland, who died on February 7th 1982. Always remembered by his mum, dad and many friends in Granagh.

McMULLAN, Danny. (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear brother, IRA Vol Danny McMullan, who died on February 7th 1982. My heart does heave a heavy sigh, each time I think of you, I should not really think of you like that. We'll meet again on happy shores, where tears will never flow, my soldier friend to see you like the dawn. I'll be there below. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. Ever remembered by Michael, Sally and Michael Jr.

comhairle ceantar extends their deepest sympathy to the friends and family of their comrade, Vol Sean Bailey, who died on February 7th 1982. Go ndána Dia trocáire ar a h-anam.
THORNBURY, The staff of Connolly House Sinn Féin express their deepest sympathy to the friends and family of their comrade Gene, who died recently. Ar dheis é go raib a h-anam dís.

THORNBURY, Sinn Féin, Andersonstown, extends its deepest sympathy to the family of our dear friend Gene. Ar dheis é go raib a h-anam usall.

THORNBURY, The Twinbrook/Poleglass Sinn Féin comhairle ceantar extend deepest sympathy to the family of the late Gene Thornbury. He will be sadly

McMULLAN, Danny. (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear brother IRA Vol Danny McMullan, who died on February 7th 1982. Danny, when we meet again, we'll think of you as you were, young and brave, a soldier boy, that's why I seldom cry. Ever remembered by Francis, Brenda and little Orla and Branagh.

McMULLAN, Danny. (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear brother IRA Vol Danny McMullan, who died on February 7th 1982. My fearless friend, I miss you much, but this I cannot change, the Lord has chosen you as his own. His ways are sometimes strange, I feel so proud of you, for the title that you bore, a Volunteer for Ireland's cause, could one have asked for more. Ever remembered by Patrick, Anne, Aidan, Aine and Danny.

McMULLAN, Danny. (2nd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of a dear brother and Volunteer who died as a result of a car accident on February 7th 1982. You always had a smile to share, time to give and time to care, some one to turn to, kind and true, one in a million, that you. Wonderful memories woven in gold, these are, the memories of a brother who has left rest in the knowledge that his work will be carried on. Always remembered by his dear brother, brother-in-law Seamus and baby Clara.

McMULLAN, Danny. (2nd Anniversary). In loving memory of Vol Danny McMullan, South Derry Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died tragically in a car accident on February 7th 1982. His memory will live on, his time to fight for freedom, Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. Sadly missed and always remembered by Carmel and Seamus.

O'NEILL, James. (8th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Flan James O'Neill, Belfast Brigade, Flanna Brigade, who died on active service on February 13th 1976. Thus a shaoil óg as troid ar son saoirse. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in Flanna Éireann.

O'NEILL, Jim. (8th Anniversary). In loving memory of our dear friend Jim O'Neill, who died on February 13th 1976. RIP. St Jude, pray for him. Always remembered by the O'Hagan family.

STAGG, Proinsias. (8th Anniversary). The Republican Movement remembers with pride Vol Proinsias Stagg, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died on February 12th 1976 whilst on hunger-strike for Ireland to go to a jail in Ireland. I measc laochra na n-aoi go raib a h-anam.

STAGG, Proinsias. (8th Anniversary). The Republican Movement (Britain) remembers with pride Vol Proinsias Stagg, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died on February 12th 1976 after 61 days on hunger-strike. "We are a risen people, this time we will not be put in the gutter, even if this should mean dying for justice. I want my memorial to be placed with justice." Proinsias Stagg.

STAGG, Proinsias. (8th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear friend Vol Proinsias Stagg, Sinn Féin cumann, Liberties, Dublin, remembers with pride IRA Vol Frank Stagg, who died on February 12th 1976. RIP. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Prison, England, on February 12th 1976.

THOMPSON, Kathleen. (5th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear friend Kathleen Thompson, who died on February 9th 1979. She was a woman's war, but a people's war and very, very much suffering has been borne by the women, be they mothers, wives, political activists or Volunteers. And the men, caught to remember that without the sacrifice of women there would be no struggle at all.

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THOMPSON, Kathleen. (5th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear friend Kathleen Thompson, who died on February 9th 1979. She was a woman's war, but a people's war and very, very much suffering has been borne by the women, be they mothers, wives, political activists or Volunteers. And the men, caught to remember that without the sacrifice of women there would be no struggle at all.

GREETINGS

CLARKE, Anthony. (Strangeways). Birthday greetings, Tony. From An Cumann Cabhrach, Walsington, Dublin.
CLARKE, Anthony. (Strangeways). All our very best wishes on a 21st birthday to a fond friend. From your comrades Raymond, Mary and Patrick, Donegal.
CLARKE, Anthony. (Strangeways). Happy birthday, Tony. Well, another birthday — don't worry, you don't look that bad, nah! All our love from Mary, Maurice and family.
CLARKE, Anthony. (Strangeways). Happy birthday, Tony. Well, we have a few drinks for you but it won't be long till we'll be having a few together. All our love from Anne, Joe and Seannie.
CLARKE, Anthony. (Strangeways). Happy birthday, Tony. Don't worry, Tony.

It's not how young you feel it's how old you look, nah! All our love from Eamon, Marion and Alan; and Theresa and Alan.
CLARKE, Anthony. (Strangeways). Happy birthday, Tony. What can I say but that we treasure your birthday as though you were with us. Go bless and all our love from Belle, Liam and Gerald.
CLARKE, Anthony. (Strangeways). Happy birthday, Tony. Good luck from Michael Fitzsimmons (H7) and all your comrades.
McDONNELL, Gerry. The love we share together grows more special every day, and I'll always love you, Gerry, so much more than words can say. Love and miss you, Sheila.
O'HAGAN, John. (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, son, Glad this is your last in that hell-hole. Love from Father and Mother.
O'HAGAN, John. (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, brother. See you drunk again

SYMPATHY

DONOGHUE, The James Connolly Sinn Féin cumann, Ballyfermot, Dublin, extend heartfelt sympathy to our friend and comrade Stephen Donoghue on the death of his mother, Go ndána Dia trocáire ar a h-anam.
DONOGHUE, The Robert Emmet Sinn Féin cumann, Kilmaham/Inchlore, Dublin, extend deepest sympathy to our friend and comrade Stephen Donoghue on the tragic loss of his mother on Monday, February 6th.

DONOGHUE, Comhairle Atha Cliath Sinn Féin extends deepest sympathy to Stephen Donoghue, Ballyfermot, on his recent sad bereavement.
KEATING, Sinn Féin (Britain) extends deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Joe Keating on his recent death, especially to his nephew Eddie Butler (Lancaster).
KEATING, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Joe Keating on his recent death, especially to his nephew Eddie Butler (Lancaster). Sincerely regretted by Rosie, Eddie and family.
KELLY, Deepest sympathy is extended to the wife and family of John 'Fluke' Kelly, who died on February 1st. Sadly

missed by Willie and Terri McDaid.
MCCORMACK, An cumann Cabhrach, Walsington, Dublin, extends sincere sympathy to the wife and family of the late Hughie McCormack, Dublin.
SULLIVAN, The Tony Aherne Sinn Féin cumann, Manchester, extends heartfelt sympathy to the wife and family of our friend and comrade Mick Sullivan, who died on Saturday, February 4th. Go ndána Dia trocáire ar a h-anam.
SULLIVAN, Deepest sympathy is extended to the wife, family and friends of our friend and comrade Mick Sullivan, who died at the weekend. Ar dheis é go raib a h-anam. From Gerry Small and Joan Kavanagh.
THORNBURY, West Belfast Sinn Féin

comhairle ceantar extends their deepest sympathy to the friends and family of their comrade, Vol Sean Bailey, who died on February 7th 1982. Go ndána Dia trocáire ar a h-anam.
THORNBURY, The staff of Connolly House Sinn Féin express their deepest sympathy to the friends and family of their comrade Gene, who died recently. Ar dheis é go raib a h-anam dís.

THORNBURY, Sinn Féin, Andersonstown, extends its deepest sympathy to the family of our dear friend Gene. Ar dheis é go raib a h-anam usall.

THORNBURY, The Twinbrook/Poleglass Sinn Féin comhairle ceantar extend deepest sympathy to the family of the late Gene Thornbury. He will be sadly

missed. Go ndána Dia trocáire ar a h-anam.

THORNBURY, Deepest sympathy is extended to the Thornbury family on the death of their dear friend Gene. From Go ndána Dia trocáire ar a h-anam. The Glenasmole family, Belfast and Birmingham, and especially Richard (Long Lartin).

THORNBURY, The family of the late Sheila and Harry Currie wish to thank the many who sent Mass cards, wreaths and sympathy. They will be offered for their intentions.

MIRROR SEARCHES RETURN

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

IN THE WAKE of the Hennessy report on the escape by republican prisoners from H7-Block, Long Kesh, last September, there has been an escalation of repressive activity against prisoners by the Prison Officers Association and Prison Governors Association who appear to be snubbing the Northern Ireland Office and making independent decisions, including the reintroduction of the barbaric mirror searches which became notorious during the H-Block blanket and no-wash protests.

On Wednesday, February 1st, in Magilligan Prison, Derry, a general lock-up of republican prisoners was enforced following an explosion in a wash-room in the camp. H3-Block was searched by prison warders, and later that day the RUC arrived and questioned selected republican prisoners.

On Thursday, February 2nd, prisoners were confined for another 24 hours and denied slopping-out facilities and were further questioned by the RUC. On Friday, warders searched H3 again, removing everything from the prisoners' cells while each

prisoner was strip-searched.

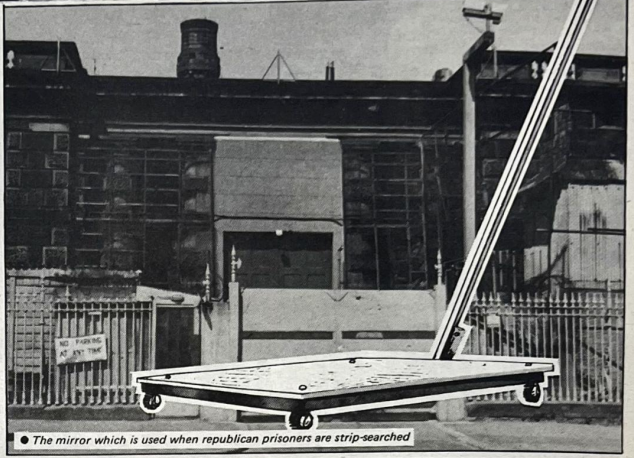
The POWs were then individually removed to the wash-room and physically forced to bend over a mirror while their back passages were inspected by warders.

The mirror searches were carried out in all four wings, and two men in C-Wing, four in B-Wing, and one in A-Wing, were viciously beaten by warders when they protested about the manner of the search.

CRUMLIN ROAD

And in Crumlin Road Jail, in Belfast, the overall tense situation in the North's prisons escalated further when up to a dozen republican remand prisoners were beaten last Tuesday night, February 7th, when warders, clad in full riot gear and wielding batons, entered cells and dragged men out by the hair.

A relative who visited his son on Wednesday morning — when some republicans were refused visits when they would not comply with the strip-search — told *AP/RN* that republican POWs on A-Wing had been left without shirts or trousers. Their belongings, including some mattresses, had been removed and lights in their cells had been deliberately left on all night.



● The mirror which is used when republican prisoners are strip-searched

Short Strand 'recruit' comes forward

ANOTHER failed attempt by the RUC to recruit a member of the nationalist community into providing information, was brought to Sinn Féin's attention last Saturday, February 4th.

Freddie Quinn, from the Short Strand area of East Belfast, was abducted by the RUC in the early hours of Saturday morning and bundled into the back of a land-rover as he was on his way home from the local LESEA Club.

Quinn was not placed under arrest but was nevertheless brought to Mountpottinger Barracks where he was interrogated by a number of RUC men who tried to persuade him to "keep a look out for anything going on in the Short Strand".

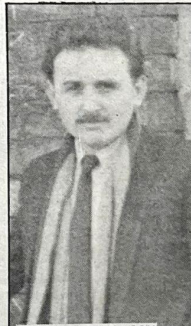
Although the RUC did not specify names, they indicated that they intended to make life difficult for him regarding his family circumstances if he failed to co-

operate with them. They also told him to meet them later that day at 3pm in The Roost, a bar in the city centre which is frequented by RUC men from Musgrave Street RUC Barracks.

Bluffing his way out of a difficult situation, as he saw it, Quinn agreed to do as he was instructed and was released, but he immediately contacted Sinn Féin.

Commenting on the incident, Denis Donaldson, Sinn Féin spokesperson for East Belfast, said:

"This sinister and cynical attempt to entrap people to work for the RUC is an indication of the RUC's use of illegal and perjurious methods which they will no doubt deny, but nevertheless is part of their ongoing



● DENIS DONALDSON

strategy in their use of paid perjurers against vulnerable individuals within the nationalist community."



● Annette Hughes with her six-month-old son

RUC BULLYING

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

DURING a house raid carried out by the RUC last week, a South Armagh woman was ordered to remove her dress and was denied access to the kitchen area to prepare her young baby's bottle.

In a petty display of retaliation, following an IRA landmine attack last Tuesday week, January 31st, Drumantee woman Annette Hughes was subjected to the degrading search by an RUC woman who insisted she complied regardless of Mrs Hughes protests that a frisk search was sufficient. Mrs Hughes explained:

"I felt really humiliated at the time as there were nine RUC men searching the house, some of them just outside in the hallway."

She was placed under illegal 'room arrest', which restricted her

in entering the kitchen to prepare a bottle for her six-month-old son Sean, who suffers from a hole in the heart:

"I tried to go into the kitchen but they stopped me and said they hadn't finished searching it and that I should 'keep quiet'. It took them until 9.30pm to finish before the baby was fed."

The RUC woman, according to Mrs Hughes, insisted on searching the baby's nappy and threatened that they were going to shoot her husband Sean who has persistently been harassed over a

two-year period.

Annette Hughes, who originally comes from Manchester and has only recently settled in South Armagh with her husband, was extremely upset by the manner in which not only her home had been invaded but also her rights as an individual had been totally disregarded.

RAIDED

Also in Drumantee, another woman, Mrs Brea McShane, was raided on Saturday morning, February 4th, by a large force of Brits/RUC who had surrounded her bungalow.

When she answered the door, up to a dozen RUC men rushed past a bewildered Mrs McShane who was standing in her night-dress. While they began searching the house, she went into her bedroom to dress and an RUC woman entered and observed her closely.

Mrs McShane was then instructed to bring her two young children, five-year-old Kelly and two-year-old Joanne — still in their pyjamas and without breakfast — into the living room where they were confined during the search.

At 10am, Brea McShane was placed under arrest, despite the fact that her husband was not at home to look after the children, who were left with a neighbour. The RUC confiscated the family car for examination and Mrs McShane was taken in an RUC car to Newry Barracks.

Her interrogation lasted a continuous seven hours, during which time she was repeatedly called a liar and was forced to listen to a host of slanderous innuendoes about her husband.

Prior to her release, around 5pm that night, Mrs McShane was informed by the RUC that they would 'return for her' in the near future.

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