

the irish people

Vol. 1. No. 23

An Choismhuirtir

Price 6p.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1973

★ Crannac Editorial	Page 2.
★ Dailmations on	Page 3.
★ Building Society facts	Page 4.
★ I.C.T.U. Conference	Page 6.
★ Des O'Hagan Writes on	Page 7.
★ No Private Armies	Back Page.

While cries of mock-horror still echo from stockbrokers in London and Toronto at the proposed taxation of profits, the biggest mining shock of all awaits workers who seek employment at Tara Mines at Navan. Under the terms of a secret agreement signed between Tara Mines Limited and the Federation of Rural Workers each worker will be obliged to sign an American-type labour contract before getting permanent employment at the mines.

Signed on July 13 last, the agreement means that each individual employee, following a three-month weeding out period, will sign a contract binding himself to flagrant breaches of the normal trade union rights traditionally exercised in this country.

Under the agreement labourers at the mine will receive £24 for a forty-hour week. A "leading hand (Grade One)" supervising up to 10 men will receive £26 per week. This wage structure stands until June 30, 1974, and, under the terms of the agreement, no further wage claim can be made until that date.

In exchange for concluding this agreement with the Tara Company the Federation of the Rural Workers becomes the sole union permitted by the Company for categories normally catered for by that Union with the addition of men on the "prospecting team".

Under the heading "Management Rights" the price of the F.R.W. position is laid down: "The Union recognises the right of Management to manage the enterprise, locate, extend, curtail or cease operations, to hire and determine the number of men required for any and all operations, the kinds and locations of machines, tools and equipments to be used, and the schedules of production; to be the judge of the qualifications of the employee, to maintain order, discipline and efficiency, to make, alter and

the irish people
EXCLUSIVE

WAGES SHOCK FOR THE MINE MEN

amend rules of conduct and procedure for employees; to classify, transfer, promote, demote, layoff, discharge, suspend or discipline employees for just cause... etc. etc. The complete abrogation of collective bargaining principles reduces the union presence to that of a tame house association.

Even the union rules for the

election of shop stewards are breached by the Company and the F.R.W. in the contract. Shop stewards must be employees of the Company "with seniority status" and are chosen by the Union. Sympathetic strikes are explicitly ruled out. Breach of the contract agreement by individual employees can lead to Court action.

Under a schedule of offences appended to the agreement no employee may "distribute unauthorised literature" without permission.

James Tully, General Secretary of the Rural Workers' Federation, is on secondment as Minister for Local Government. His son, John Tully, is Secretary of Tara Mines.



● A propaganda photograph of the new Long Kesh accommodation.

New style comforts at Long Kesh



● James Tully

The Whitelaw Government has just completed a £1½ million building programme — extending Her Majesty's Prison at the Maze, otherwise known as Long Kesh. The news was given

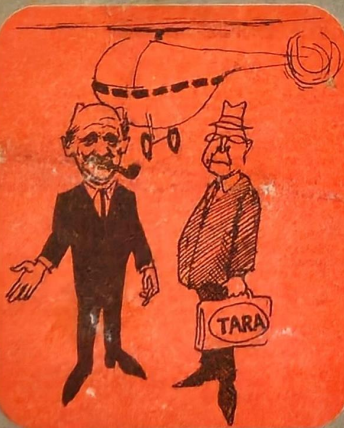
recently by the Northern Ireland Office Information Service which also issued a number of photographs illustrating some of the "six new style compounds" which go to make up this "new look prison".

Among the "excellent facilities" which prisoners will be able to enjoy are showers, wash hand basins, enlarged kitchen facilities, fluorescent lights and overhead heaters. The Information Service pointed out, however, that these facilities are for convicted prisoners only. The hundreds of internees (many of whom have been held since August 9, 1971) are not to enjoy any of these comforts even though they too are held in the "Maze Prison".

No photographs

The new facilities compare very favourably with the conditions under which internees are forced to live. They have poor lighting, leaking roofs, draughty walls, unwashed bed linen, poor visiting facilities and absolutely no privacy. The Information Service of Mr. Whitelaw's office has not issued any photographs of their huts, nor has Mr. Whitelaw seen fit to give details of his "old style" internment camp.

Goodbye to all that... SEE PAGE 5



"Thank heavens for our natural resources — otherwise we could never afford such poverty..."

Meat men strike

Unofficial strike action, a High Court injunction restraining strikers from picketing, protest marches to the headquarters of the Workers' Union of Ireland, etc., could all have been avoided if the International Meat Co. Ltd. and the Union had accepted what has been stated as fact in the 1972 annual report of the Irish Livestock and Meat Board.

The report reads: "The carcasses move on a continuous overhead line which travels down one side and up the other of the huge room, over a stainless steel bench at which the skilled butchers operate, each taking out a special cut, until the remaining bones of the carcass are removed by an automatic chute to be processed for by-products".

The strike began early last week when the company refused to concede that trimmers should be paid a differential because of the semi-skilled nature of the work. The strikers claimed

that their unofficial action was necessary because the Workers' Union of Ireland, to which most of them belong, was not treating their grievance with any urgency.

Later in the week the company announced that the 200 strikers had been dismissed but that the company were willing to discuss their demands "when the claim is clarified and defined". The Union advised the strikers to return to work and have their claim processed "through the normal channels".

The company is owned by the Cork Marts/I.M.P. Group. This group consists of ten marts in the Munster area as well as Irish Meat Packers Ltd., Leixlip, I.M.P. (Midleton) Ltd. and the C.F.U. Bacon Company, Cork. The Board of the International Meat Company is made up of men like Major Maurice Donegan, Thomas Blake, Stanislaus Brophy and Jeremiah Beechinor.

the ipish people

An Choismhuintir, Friday, Oct. 5, 1973.

WELCOME

The announcement of the taxation of mining companies must be welcomed. It represents a victory for the unselfish research and work of the group of Trinity College graduates and students known as the Resources Study Group. It was their analysis and forceful presentation of the case for an adequate mining policy which led to the wiping out of an outrageous anomaly where mining companies made tax-free profits while their employees wages were taxed to the limit.

The battle for an adequate mining policy is far from over, however. As pointed out by our mining correspondent inside the tax only affects about five per cent of the total wealth producing cycle of the raw minerals being dug from our soil.

The major issue remains — not how much of the mineral wealth of our country the Government is going to take from the mining corporations, but exactly how much the Government is going to give them. The operative word is give, not take. Under the Constitution the Government, representing the Irish people, have the disposal of the country's mineral wealth.

Euphoria arising from the long overdue taxing of the mining corporations should not blind us to the essential fact that as yet the Irish people, rightful and legal owners of all the mineral wealth beneath our soil, have not come into the ownership of one ounce of their natural birthright.

Mr. Brian Lenihan has said that the tax decision has "sabotaged our reputation of confidence and credit" abroad. It is Mr. Lenihan's duty as a politician to draw attention to himself on the eve of a bye-election in which he could be a candidate but his remarks should confuse no one.

A good reply to Mr. Lenihan arguably is that the foreign mining corporations presently operating in Ireland are here because the State of California recently nationalised off-shore oil deposits to the 95 per cent mark.

The public opinion which ended the Fianna Fail tax-holiday must now regroup, strengthened as if by this initial success, and go on to win control over natural resources for the people of Ireland.

THE CRANNAC WAY

Foir Teoranta is the State-financed body which engages in rescue operations in cases where jobs are in jeopardy and where an injection of finance not otherwise available might save jobs. In its first annual report Foir reveals that 53 firms employing 8,000 people received advances of £4.1 million between them.

This means that the cost of saving each job placed in jeopardy by threatened insolvency works out at £500. This figure may be contrasted to the average cost of providing new jobs through the I.D.A. — £2,000 each.

The Crannac Co-op Society's first annual returns are reported elsewhere in this issue. Crannac received a grant of £50,000 from Foir Teo. and, judging from their first year's result, will repay every penny. More than thirty jobs were saved at Crannac by the courageous decision of the workers to go it alone as a co-operative after an asset-stripping exercise had virtually closed their factory down.

There is a moral in this for the workers at Hammond Lane Ironfounders, Dublin. Over 170 men face redundancy and unemployment if this asset-stripping exercise succeeds. In a few years time a shining new office block will mark the site where the Hammond jobs vanished in the interest of quick profit if the men and their Union give in to the hustling of the Hammond Group directors. They should take heart and example from the Navan precedent and do a Crannac on the asset-strippers.

Maher angers the sugar workers

The Erin Foods plant at Carlow has again become the subject of controversy. Lough Eigh, the Monaghan based company are negotiating with the Sugar Company on the leasing of the Carlow food processing plant for a period of five years. The extra processing capacity is required to fulfil the export orders for quick-frozen vegetables.

The Lough Eigh move has been welcomed by the President of the Irish Farmers' Association, Mr. T. J. Maher. His welcome was based on the hope that Lough Eigh would be able to provide a better service and a guaranteed outlet which would be attractive to growers.

Mr. Maher's statement has brought a sharp reaction from employees of the Sugar Company. In a telegram to the Minister for Finance the Sugar Group staff association requested an immediate meeting at which

they would seek an assurance that the Sugar Company would "be protected against any group, however powerful its lobby".

The staff association criticised Mr. Maher, a director of the Sugar Company, for his readiness "to debate the industry and its problems in public when he has shown too much reticence in communicating with us, its full-time workers". They "could not understand" the attitude of a director of a State company — whose responsibility it is for the industry as a whole — who can "say so barefacedly that he is in favour of a virtual takeover of the industry provided growers' interests are protected, without any reference to its other interests and to the people employed in the industry".

The remarks which the staff association criticised had been made by Mr. Maher at the Annual General Meeting of the Beet and Vegetable

Growers' Association of which he is president. The workers felt that Mr. Maher could have used the occasion to remind the growers of "last year's dishonoured contracts" when 200 workers lost their jobs at the Tuam plant as a result of growers failing to supply vegetables.

Question

The Workers Action Committee at Carlow have also commented on the leasing proposal. They are asking the question "If Lough Eigh can make money processing at the Carlow plant why can't the Irish Sugar Company?" They have also pointed out that if the deal goes through Lough Eigh will lease the plant for a five-year period with the lease renewable every two years. Such an arrangement, they say, will satisfy neither workers nor growers who will be looking for firm guarantees



● T. J. Maher.
about continuity of production.

The dossier prepared by the Carlow Action Committee has, to date, not been commented upon by either the Minister for Finance or the Minister for Industry and Commerce. It contains expert analysis of the advantages of Carlow for the development of the food processing industry.

CREDIT UNION POSITION

Mr. Michael L. O'Doherty has been appointed General Secretary of the Irish League of Credit Unions.

A native of Derry, Mr. O'Doherty has been involved in the credit union movement since 1962 and is a founder member of the Raheny and District Credit Union. In 1964 he was elected a director of the Credit Union League of Ireland and served on the Board until he became the first full-time employee of the League early in 1966.

Mr. O'Doherty whose most recent position has been that of Administrative Officer, is deeply interested in community work and is chairman of the Council for the Co-ordination of Social Services in the Edendore/Killester/Raheny area of Dublin.



● Michael O'Doherty.

Corporation seeks orders

Over the next few weeks, Dublin Corporation will use the law to solve a problem which it has not realistically attempted to solve itself, that is, Dublin's housing problem.

Eviction orders are being sought against 434 squatters who mainly through lack of any alternative have squatted into Corporation houses.

Workers co-op profits exceed targets set

"I should like to offer my congratulations to the employees and committee of the Society for achieving excellent results in their first year of trading", says Mr. Niall MacMahon, the chartered accountant and public auditor, in the auditors report to the Committee of the Crannac Co-Operative Society Ltd., Navan.

The report shows that the profit, before taxation, for the year ending July 31 amounted to £18,824. The accounts make provision for a staff bonus of £5,000 and when this is taken into consideration profits for the year exceed the budgeted figure by £10,374.

Sales for the year amounted to £195,460 and this exceeded the budgeted sales by £55,460.

The co-op's current income in July, 1972, two months after furniture

workers employed by Crannac Teoranta were locked out, without notice, by a liquidator and told that the Navan firm was closed down. A two month occupation of the factory by the workers followed before they formed a co-op and took it over.

The result of the first year's trading substantiates the claim of the workers that the closure of the firm was unjustified in the first place and although interest on a loan from Foir Teoranta and premiums in respect of a pension scheme for members will increase overheads by over £8,000 in the coming year a bright future is forecast for the co-op. Foir Teoranta which is a state-financed body set up last year to give loans to or invest in firms that might have to close down made an advance of £50,000 to the Crannac co-operative.

COUNTDOWN

Bunbeg

Housing facilities have begun to catch up on industrial development in the Donegal Gaeltacht as construction of a 42 house estate in Bunbeg gets under way shortly. Built by the National Building Agency in conjunction with Gaeltarra Eireann to accommodate workers in Bunbeg's industrial estate, the houses are three and four bedroomed and will carry an option to purchase for future tenants.

Crossmaglen

The Wolfe Tone Republican Club, Crossmaglen, has pledged its support to angry parents who have withdrawn their children from nearby Creggan Primary School in protest over the abrupt dismissal of one of its teachers. During the course of the dispute with the management of the Protestant school, parents have been sending their children to private lessons at the home of Mrs. Elizabeth White, the dismissed teacher.

Charleville

New offices to open shortly in Chapel St. was one of the announcements made at Charleville Credit Union's recent annual general meeting. An outlay of £30,000 in loans was reported for the last year. The following officers were elected for the coming year, Chairman, Tom Lowry; Vice-Chairman, John Creagh; Treasurer, Pat Wood; Secretary, Tony Connolly; Assistant Treasurer, James O'Connor.

Tullamore

ICN Pharmaceuticals Inc. of California has announced its intention to open a factory at the IDA advance factory in Tullamore. Employment will be provided for 60 when the plant goes into production in early 1973.

Navan

Misgivings on the part of Navan residents at the loss to the Irish economy of the wealth generated by the country's mineral resources has found concrete expression in the establishment of a committee to lobby for full state ownership of mineral wealth. The recent withdrawal of the tax free holiday from the mining companies will not spell the early demise of the committee who have advocated full nationalisation as the only means of ensuring complementary industrial development to process the ore and retain all the potential wealth within Ireland.

Abbeyfeale

Abbeyfeale Credit Union has appealed to local residents to make their investments with it as a concrete way of helping both themselves and the community. Although established only a short time the union has already built up £2,500 in shares. Office times are 7.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. every Friday.

Galway

The ground rent war has hit Galway with moves afoot to form a branch of A.C.R.A. in the city to campaign on the issue. Taking tenants and rent payments associations in the city to get together in the hope that there will be enough local support to give the green light for the formation of a Galway branch.

Sligo

The Sligo Branch of the Electrical Trades Union has taken a stand against the use of non-union labour with a decision that the union's members working for the E.S.B. will in future refuse to connect houses wired by non-union members. The decision was taken unanimously at a special meeting of the branch.



● Cork gas men on picket.

CORK GAS STRIKERS IN COURT

A number of workers who have been on strike at Cork Gas Company for nearly three months are due to appear in court on Friday, October 5. Some forty charges, most of them relating to alleged picketing offences, have been brought against them.

Gas supplies have not yet been seriously affected by the strike. Supervisors and clerical workers have been doing the work of the nine members of the A.U.E.W. who

are on strike and of the 120 members of the I.T. & G.W.U. who refused to pass pickets.

The strike, which is official, arose from the dismissal by the Company of two workers, one a shop steward, for removing a notice which according to normal procedure should have borne the counter signature of the shop steward. The company has since admitted that the action of the two men was justified and has agreed to re-

employ them.

The Union, however, points out that since the strike is a direct result of company action all members should be entitled to full compensation in wages and that members of the staff who have been acting as strikebreakers should be unionised.

The Gas Company has refused to meet these terms and claims that the use of strikebreakers is in the interests of Cork housewives

N.A.T.O. Annual Meeting

At the annual general meeting of the National Association of Tenant Organisations held in Dublin last weekend the following executive was elected: President, Christy Hynes; Vice-President, Pat Byrne; General Secretary, Matt Larkin; Minutes Secretary, Tom Byrnes; Joll Treasurers, Donnchadh Mac Raghnaill and Tom O'Connor; P.R.O., Charles Keenan; Committee, Margaret O'Brien (Whitehall), Doreen Grimes (Tullamore); Veronica Brown (Galway); Kathleen Munster (Drogheda); Alf Croker (Kilmore West); Des Toolan (Coolock); Pat Byrne (Drogheda); Dan Greaney (Limerick); Dan Crean (Cork); Bill Collins (Cork); Jack Culbert (Limerick) and Martin Rowe (Wexford).

It was announced last week that following further negotiations between NATO representatives and the Department of Local Government it had been agreed that 3 per cent per year of tenancy discount in the new house purchase scheme would apply to the gross price of the house. Until last week's announcement the discount (subject to a maximum of 30 per cent) was calculated on the net price after deductions had been made of amounts equivalent to state and local authority grants and rates remission. This concession could mean reductions of up to £300 and has been warmly welcomed by NATO leaders.

VIEWPOINT/ COPINAC DUPPE

I find it exceedingly difficult to swallow the self-righteous indignation of President Childers, the Taoiseach, the Tanaiste and other members of the Leinster House government at the presence of Southern Rhodesian ploughmen at the World Ploughing Championships in Co. Wexford this week, and the boycott of the event by the same members of government.

To my mind Messrs. Childers, Cosgrave, Corish, Clinton and others would be much more realistic and less hypocritical if they boycotted the event for another reason—the presence of British representatives at the ploughing championships.

If Messrs. Childers, Cosgrave, Corish, Clinton and others wish to make a protest against discrimination and illegal governments, then let their charity begin at home. If they must boycott a mere ploughing event in the interests of justice and fair play, I would suggest that there are a thousand better examples of injustice and unfair play in our own little island, all perpetrated by Britain. Yet I hear no protests or threats of boycotts of the Co. Wexford ploughing event because British ploughmen are taking part.

It is easy to sleep on another man's wounds. It is easier to wax indignant and humanitarian when those wounds belong to a coloured man thousands of miles away in Africa.

Am I being unpatriotic and mischievous by mentioning the names Long Kesh, Magilligan, Ballykelly, Ballymurphy, Bogside? Come off it, Messrs. Childers, Cosgrave, Corish, Clinton and company. Methinks you all protest too much.

Claudia affair

For a further example of governmental hypocrisy, consider the statement issued by the Government Information Services in reply to the protests and allegations of bias and persecution after the dismissals of Donal Whelan, headmaster of Kilmacthomas Vocational School, and of Gearoid Murphy, Waterford County Council engineer, following their convictions in connection with the Claudia affair.

The statement said "it must be pointed out that no such dismissals occurred", that following conviction on charges under the Offences Against the State Act automatic forfeiture of office occurs in the case of people receiving remuneration from central funds.

This is double-talk and double-think of the crassest kind. The two men were dismissed because of a Government Act. The G.I.S. statement added a further lie at the end of their statement: "If (loss of jobs) is neither a Governmental nor Departmental decision".

Was it not a Governmental decision to enact the iniquitous Offences Against the State Act, even if it was back in 1939? Is there not continuing responsibility and continuing accountability for all legislation enacted in the state as long as such legislation is on the books? Is it the present Government's case that the legislation under which Donal Whelan and Gearoid Murphy are being victimised is not of their doing and not their responsibility?

Such hypocritical playing with words should not be tolerated, especially when men's careers and the future of their families are involved.

Brian agus a 'banana republic'

Bhaisr Brian Lenihan Banana Republic ar na Sé Chontae Fíchead le déanaí agus é ag labhairt le firen a pháirtí féin. Anois, tá a lán daoine a d'aontódh leis an ráiteas, ach ní hé an bhir chéanna a bhainfeadh siad as na focla.

Ní raibh Banana Republic riamh againn go dtí le fíor-déanaí, de réir teoiric an Iar-T.D. seo. Ach nuair a fógraíodh go rabhtas le cáin bheag a ghearradh ar bhrabach na gcomhluachlú mianá-dóreacha, go tobann ba Banana Republic é an Stát! 'Sé sin, fíada a bhí saor-chead ag lucht gaimbin an t-á chreacadh, ba chumhartha

saorise agus neamh-spleáchais é sin; ach is lúide ar saorise an srian atá curtha leis an slá!

Cíos talún

Is maith an rud é gur é Brian Lenihan a dúirt é, mar gur beag duine a thugann aon áird ar an bhfeart bocht. Is cinnte gur beag áird a thug vótóirí lár tíre air sa toghchán deiridh. Tá dúchas an tairbh go tréan ann, agus ní amháin ina chloigeann nó feola gona ghruaig chas dubh atá sin le feiceáil, ach sa tslí thugann sé faoi gach rud. Isáinn an ceacht ag toscaíonn sé. Sin an fáth gur

minic a chuireann sé a dhá chois go gúin ann; an buinneach sa bhunneach arís mar aduirt fear amháin tairis eacra da chuid roinnt blianta ó shin nuair a rinne sé tarraicht an dhí nua faoi cheannach Cíosanna Talún a chosant ar eirinnidh poiblí. Tá's ag an saol anois nach raibh sé díl eanna ach bealach le saibheas tairann talún a chosant ar an bhfeachtas a bhí ag bailiú nirt ag an am sin chun deiridh a chur le cíos talún.

Nuair a cruthaíodh sin don slua, chaill Brian bocht an 'block' ar fad agus thoshaigh sé ag bíraíl faoi 'reds', etc. Bhí an t-adh leis go raibh fear a shábhála i láthair a chuir d'iachall air a chlab a dhúndh nó go mbeadh sé ina cheap mairbh ar fad. Agus cé shlánaigh é ar a chuid seafóide féin an oíche sin? Cé eile ach an poblachtóir mór, Charlie Haughey? Ní for chuirigh Brian an chomaoin le Charlie ina dhiaidh sin nuair a bhí Charlie i dtíoblaíod.



● Brian Lenihan

INTRODUCTORY OFFER

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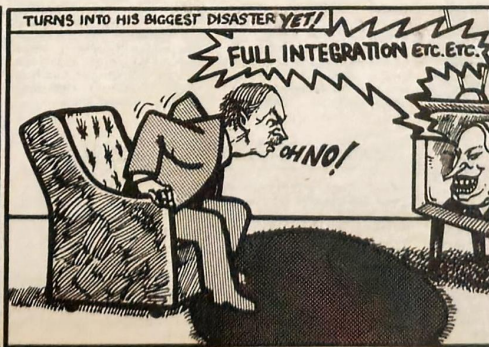
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The Dailmations





● Edmund Farrell, Managing Director, Irish Permanent Building Society.

Home loan crisis: the solution

One immediate solution to the present crux in Building Society finance is the release of funds unnecessarily held in reserve. Reserve funds are needed by each Society to meet withdrawals and in Ireland Societies keep between 10 and 15 per cent in reserve to meet contingencies.

For instance, the Irish Permanent keeps £3,850,000 in reserve at the moment; the E.B.S. £1,280,000; the First National £340,000; the Irish Industrial £215,000 and the Irish Civil Service £10,000. Each Society keeps its own reserves to meet its own commitments. If, however, the Government introduced legislation allowing the Societies to have a common reserve fund then the individual reserves of each Society could be significantly reduced as the combined reserves would be available to underwrite each individual Society. On the figures given above up to £1,500,000 could be released immediately as a result of such an arrangement.

This reform — combined with the other reforms outlined below which the IRISH PEOPLE have presented to the National Prices Commission — could ease the immediate problem and help hold mortgage rates at reasonable levels.

1. All Building Societies professing to make money available to home purchasers to amalgamate into one Society with a vast rationalisation of offices and other expenses.
2. Make it illegal for the Societies to provide loans other than for bona-fide house purchasers.
3. Have the accounts, in particular the advertising expenditure, of Societies examined each year by the Registrar of Friendly Societies or some Auditor specifically charged with this function.
4. Make it a legal requirement on the Societies to publish the payments to Directors as a separate item in their published annual accounts.
5. Set a fixed upper limit for Directors' fees and limit by law the number of Directors permissible relative to a Society's assets.
6. Establish an ethical code for Directors and high Executives of Societies.



● O'Keefe's Advertising Agency.

It is our opinion that connections between the Societies and agencies with which they do business should be carefully watched by the Societies themselves.

For instance, Raymond O'Keefe sits on the Board of Directors of the Irish Permanent and is managing O'Keefe's Advertising Company which does most, if not all, of the Permanent's advertising.

Then again, Edmund Farrell, Managing Director of the Permanent, is a Director of Freehold Estates Ltd., a company first registered in 1954. The original Directors all belonged to the Irish Permanent as well — Edmund Farrell himself, Colm Gallagher and Patrick Doran. By 1959 Mr. Gallagher had died and Mr. Doran resigned to be replaced by Jessica Farrell.

In 1959 a mortgage was registered at the sum of £20,000. The mortgage came from the Irish Permanent and the security was three blocks of property: lands known as Elm Park,

Beaumont Road, Dublin; lands at South Hill Park, Booterstown and lands at Harmonstown, Coolock. On the 21st December, 1961, a further mortgage of £2,500 on the same properties was given by the Permanent. Particulars of the indebtedness of this Company gave an amount of £20,300 in December 1970.

The Farrell Trust Company was founded in 1964 with Edmund and Jessica Farrell as Directors. In 1970 a mortgage from the Irish Permanent was charged on premises and grounds at Walseshough, Co. Wexford. The mortgage amounted to £8,500. A mortgage was registered on February 1, 1972, in the sum of £29,000 from the Irish Permanent on a house at 28 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin.

The vast bulk of the £50,000 share capital of the Company both in "A" and "B" shares are taken up by eight members of the Farrell family with only five shares each held by P. V. Doran and Raymond O'Keefe (also of the Irish Permanent).

Reading planted articles?

Inspired articles have begun to appear in some of the national newspapers supporting the Building Societies' case for tax relief and pushing their explanations of the present crisis.

An "inspired" article is one which pushes a particular point of view while masquerading as an objective new report or specialist contribution. In the realms of Building Societies finance problems the ordinary reader is more than usually susceptible to planted articles. Somebody has been making full use of this facility which is a feature of all heavy advertising newspapers.

A classic of the art appeared in the Evening Herald on Thursday, September 27.

Under the heading "Mortgages — cure worse than disease?" the anonymous reporter cum expert gently but firmly knocked ACRA's strike decision and the Government decision to limit new loans to the £7,500 mark.

The mortgage figures

According to Department of Local Government figures the total loaned last year by all Building Societies for new houses amounted to £24,183,000 or 59 per cent of monies advanced to borrowers by the Societies during the financial year.

The breakdown of this figure for new houses is as follows: the E.B.S. loaned

£5,550,000 (48.2 per cent of total advanced during year); the First National £2,895,000 (or 43.2 per cent of total advanced during year); the Irish Permanent £13,175,000 (or 69.6 per cent of total advanced during year) and the Civil Service £779,000 (or 41.6 per cent of total advanced during year).

What the Building Societies spend on advertising

The Association of Combined Residents Associations has opened heavy and effective fire on one major abuse by the Building Societies — advertising. An Irish Times survey revealed that management costs of Irish building societies run 230 to 300 per cent up on British societies of equivalent size.

One of the big discrepancies is the heavy amount spent on advertising — money which must be provided from the Societies revenue which, in turn, is supplied by the loan slaves who have to cope with fixed wages on the one hand and escalating mortgage interest rates on the other.

There are two main elements in the advertising issue. One is the amount actually spent; the other, the amount spent by individual Societies relative to their size. First, the amounts actually spent.

An examination of the "top twenty" advertisers for 1972 reveals some startling facts.

The total spent by the three Societies which qualify for inclusion in the top twenty bracket, the Irish Permanent, Educational (E.B.S.) and First National makes a staggering £385,520. Of this total the Irish Permanent spent £243,539 — or 58 per cent of the total spent on advertising by the three. A further £74,961 was spent by the permanent on "Public Relations, Commission and Agency Fees" in the same year to make the total set out in the table.

When the placings of the main Societies in the 1972 advertising leagues of Radio, Press and T.V. are examined the moral question of whether such an important social necessity should be left entirely in the private enterprise area arises.

In the T.V. league the Permanent came fifth after firms like Unilever, Guinness, Cadbury and Irish Biscuits with an expenditure of £103,098. In the Radio league it came third after Unilever and Quinns with a spending of £22,575, leaving Guinness in fourth place. In the Press league it came fourth with a spending of £117,866 leaving Guinness trailing in seventh position.

The Educational Building Society came fourteenth in the T.V. league with an expenditure of £55,962, scraped into twentieth position in the Radio league with £38,428 expenses and came twelfth in the Press league with a figure of £57,252. Subtracting this total on advertising from the amount set out in the table above leaves £36,075 for "Commission and Agency Fees".

The First National does not appear in the top twenty in the T.V. or Press league but shows in seventeenth position in the Radio league with a sum of £9,614 on advertising. Nevertheless, its total figures for Advertising, Commission and Agency fees stand at £83,604 much of which would lie in Press or Television advertising, while below the figures needed to qualify for a position in the top twenty.

Crazy pattern emerges

Comparisons based on the top twenty in advertising are arbitrary and not totally reliable but they do reveal the tremendous amount spent on advertising by the Societies.

The question must be asked if the present borrowers from the "Big Four" Societies are not unduly burdened by the massive £670,000 plus spent on advertising, commission and agency fees in 1972.

Would rationalisation of management and advertising costs not have kept the doors of Societies open throughout the year? Rationalisation in this area as well as restricting Societies to giving home loans to bona fide house seekers by ending their investments in commercial properties would seem to be a good part of the answer.

The second main question on the advertising score is the return for cash spent. Here, thanks to the opaque annual accounts as published by the Societies, we must rely on comparative statistics to make the case. Compare the amount spent in any one year by the different Societies on management and advertising and a crazy pattern emerges. In the table below we examine the costs ratio of the "Big Four" in relation to these two items.

As the business of one Building Society is entirely identical in all respects to that of any other, with allowance made for difference in size, a constant ratio between management costs and advertising costs might be expected.

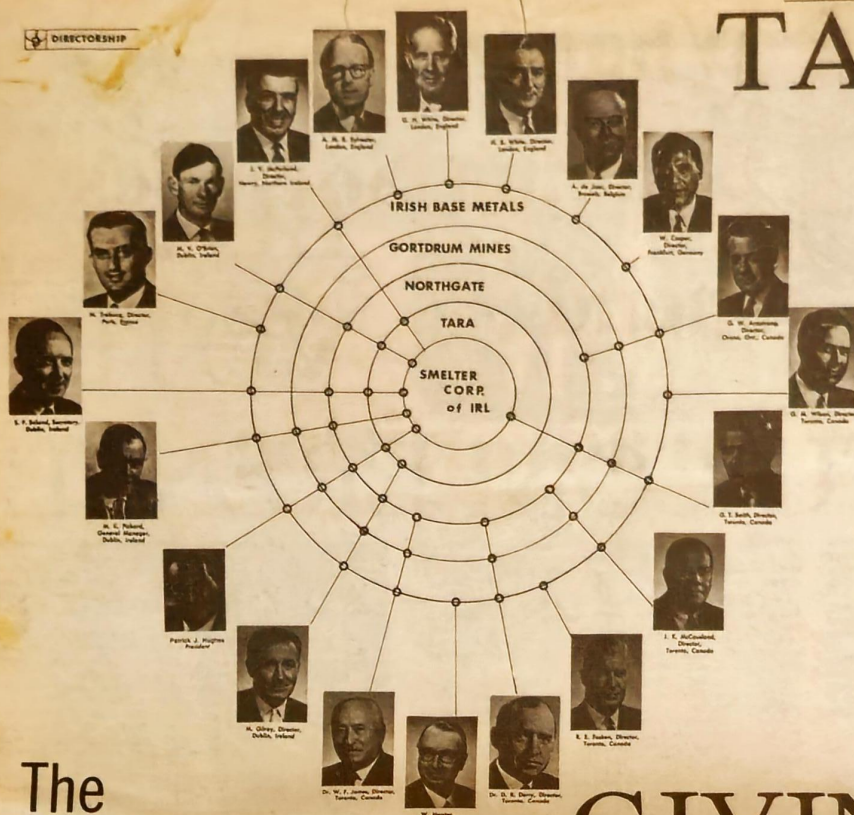
1972 SPENDING ON . . .	DIRECTORS, STAFF, AUDITORS	ADVERTISING, COMMISSION, AGENCY FEES
Irish Permanent	£249,150	£318,500
Irish Civil Service	£64,996	£15,161
First National	£163,582	£83,604
Educational (E.B.S.)	£203,611	£157,715

The rough ratio arising as between expenditure on Staff, etc. and Advertising, etc., among the respective Societies reads: £4 on Staff to £1 on Advertising (Irish Civil Service); £2 on Staff to £1 on Advertising (First National); 75p on Staff to £1 on Advertising (Irish Permanent); £1.33 on Staff to £1 on Advertising (E.B.S.).

In other words, if a cost ratio involving the respective amounts spent on staff as against that spent on advertising is an admissible criterion for judging efficiency of Building Societies then a crazy up and down pattern emerges. "Why", a borrower in one Society may ask, "does my Society have to spend a quarter more on advertising than on staff while another one spends four times less on advertising than on staff?" A very valid question since both compete in the same field for the same money.

Yet another valid question immediately arises. The necessity for advertising is acknowledged but how does such does Building Society advertising reflect the competition for available funds with the Banks, etc., and how much does it reflect wasteful competition with each other?

A glance at the table above reveals that between them the "Big Four" spent more than half a million pounds in a single year on advertising. How much of this half million pounds could have been saved by rationalisation among the Societies?



The controllers

The chart above shows the Tara/ Northgate share link-up and demonstrates the fact that these two corporations between them now control the major part of Ireland's mineral wealth.

Is it right that a small group of individuals should have exclusive control and enjoyment of the mineral resources of the whole country?

Three months to decide

The decision by the monthly ACRA delegate meeting to authorise the Ground Rent Sub-Committee declare an all-out ground rent strike in the next three months went in line with the wishes of the vast majority of members of the more significant decision on the Building Society crisis. But that decision means that ground landlords' companies who collect ground rents, and who are not required to operate in the process are faced with a massive ground rent strike in the coming months. In fact, the ACRA decision has settled doubts about the possibility of many ground rent tenants will withhold payment pending the all-out signal. Last week also Dublin County Council added its voice to that of Dublin City Council in favour of abolishing ground rent. A meeting of the Council's Finance and General Purposes Committee unanimously passed a motion calling for legislation to be introduced to abolish ground rents at present operated.

Mr. Sean Dunne said that ground rents should have been abolished in 1922. The rents went to people who had held the people of Ireland to ransom for many years. Welcoming the ACRA stand he went on to say that residents should refuse to pay ground rent from now on.

ACRA

GROUND RENT CENSUS

- (1) Name and address of the landlord.
- (2) Number of house sites liable for ground rent.
- (3) Annual amount paid on each such site.
- (4) The number of years over which ground rent has been paid.
- (5) (a) The number of ground rent (if any) bought out.
(b) Amount paid per house on such sites.
- (6) Any other action taken, e.g., attempts to buy out ground rents; refusals to pay ground rents, etc.

BALALLY ESTATE, DUNDRUM, DUBLIN.

(1) Gallagher Group Ltd., 23 Clare Street, Dublin.
(2) and (3) 550 ground rents varying between £20 and £25 each. Approximate minimum annual total collected = £11,000.

(4) Being collected over a ten year period. Not possible to estimate with any accuracy the total collected to date.

WILLOW PARK AVENUE, GROVE, ROAD, DRIVE. PINE-
WOOD GROVE, DRIVE (all in Ballymun).

WOOD GROVE, DRIVE (all in Ballymun).

- (1) Clonmel Estates, 62 Amiens Street.
- (2) and (3) 350 ground rents @ £12.50 per annum. Annual total collected = £4,375.
- (4) Being collected between four and fifteen years. Not possible to estimate with any accuracy the total collected to date.

SEAVIEW PARK, SHANKILL, CO. DUBLIN.

(1) Newman Developments, c/o Kearns Price & Co., 2 Lr. O'Connell Street, Dublin 1.

TAXING

5%

In order that the true limitations of the proposed Government Tax on the Mining Corporations may be fully understood it is necessary to look more closely at what exactly the mining sector is and what wealth does it generate, and where.

The production cycle of every metal starts with the ore in the ground and ends with the refined metal being purchased over a shop counter in the form of some consumer commodity, i.e. a car door-handle.

This 'production cycle' as it is called, is divided up into certain distinct stages; the first stage being the extraction of the ore from the ground. The second stage in the ore's production cycle is its transportation to a smelter where it is refined.

The third and final phase of the cycle is where the refined metal is used in a moulding or chemical process to make goods which are then bought over the counter in a shop. These are the three stages which the metal goes through in the process of its creation.

Not each of them, as will be seen, are of equal importance, however.

Let us now look at how the proposed government action will affect the distribution and generation of, say, Navan's wealth throughout the various stages of its production cycle.

First it is necessary to quantify exactly how much ore is in the ground at Navan. Up until recently great debate and controversy surrounded this figure with the mining corporations professing that previous projections by the Resources Study Group and others were "gross exaggerations".

Now however, for the first time, the mining corporations themselves have brought out figures which, in fact, prove that the projections of the R.S.G. were actually UNDERESTIMATES.

The mining corporations data on NAVAN appeared in Tara's Annual Report, published June 1973. It reads as follows: "the present estimate of the Company is that the extent of the Navan ore body shown by all drillings is 77,000,000 tons grading approximately 2.0 per cent lead and 10.9 per cent zinc."

The myth of Navan is now blown once and for all. For it is now known that it contains 8,500,000 tons of pure zinc and over 2,000,000 tons of pure lead, which, at £250 per ton zinc (£430 by Sept. 1973) and £180 per ton lead (£190 by Sept. 1973) gives a gross metal value of £2,000,000,000 (£2,900 million or two billion). To get some idea how large this sum is just compare that with £300 per acre. It is equivalent to six and two-thirds million acres or one third of the entire Island that is Ireland.

Nor is that all. The above wealth generation figure only refers to the extractive and smelting stages of the ore's production cycle, which, in turn, account for less than 10 per cent of the wealth generating potential of the entire production cycle; the third and final stage of the production cycle, where the pure metal is moulded into various consumer goods accounts for over 90 per cent of the total wealth generations.

And how will the proposed Government actions affect all this? If it were not so tragic it would be the joke of the century. Here we have a Government which is professing to be initiating something dramatic and it turns out that all it is doing is slapping a tax on that 1 per cent of the wealth generation potential of the mineral wealth of the country.

The minerals are allowed to remain under the control of the mining corporations to use as they wish — witness the statements of International Mogul Mines upon hearing that the Government intended to impose a tax — talk of running down the Silvermines mine and getting out once the profits began to disappear.

The sums that will remain in the pockets of the Mining Corporations even after the tax will constitute several hundreds of millions of pounds. This is a loss to the Irish people which cannot be justified under any pretext.

Above all the Governments propose 'actions' must be seen in the context that 10 per cent of the Wealth Generating Potential of Irish Minerals will continue to be generated outside of Ireland. Something in the regions of £19,000,000 (£19,000 million) will be lost to Ireland forever because of the blind ideological commitment of the Dublin Government to the free enterprise system irrespective as to the social consequences of such actions as the loss of the jobs that

In judging what is proposed to be done just look at what has not been done. Then decide — is this an alternative, or is it the only alternative — that of nationalising the mineral resources of this country and utilising them for the benefit of the Irish people.

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CORRESPONDENT**

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THE NATIONAL WAGE DEBATE

'YES... BUT' VOTE AT ICTU CONFERENCE



Despite the slightly more than two to one majority at last week's ICTU conference favouring the opening of negotiations with the employers there is still a very long road to go before a third National Wages Agreement becomes reality. The voting was 256 to 123.

Many of the 256 votes favouring negotiations came with very grave reservations. Indeed the "Yes... but" nature of many of these votes was indicated by the very first speaker from the floor of the conference.

He was Patrick Purcell, Association of Secondary Teachers who said: "My union believes in free collective bargaining and does not require congress to negotiate for it. It is with reluctance that we vote in favour of the opening of negotiations. However, if our demands are not met by the draft agreement, we will fight any new agreement tooth and nail".

Two other teacher bodies, the Irish National Teachers Organisation and the Teachers' Union of Ireland, contributed to the 256 vote total with similar reservations.

Although spokesmen for the congress giants, the Irish Transport & General Workers' Union and the Workers Union of Ireland, were slightly more vocal than at the Killarney conference in July it was again left to opponents of Wages Agreements to make the major speeches at last week's special conference.

Noel Harris, Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, noted this reluctance of advocates of national agreements to argue their case. The opponents of agreements had repeatedly stated their reasons and to date their case had not been answered.

Mr. Harris, author of a pamphlet on the wages issue, said his union was not prepared to abrogate to ICTU the authority which its members gave it to negotiate on their behalf. He believed that the leadership of ICTU was expending energy in the wrong direction. A continuation of national agreements would lead to the erosion of the reason for the existence of trade unions.

Conceding that under National Agreements the lower paid

worker had kept marginally ahead of cost-of-living increases, Mr. Harris argued that if the proper force of the Unions had been exercised the gain to the lowly paid would have been far greater than "marginal".

Mr. Andrew Barr, National Union of Sheet Metal Workers, Coppermiths, Heating and Domestic Engineers, said that the conference should be discussing the role of the congress and the role of the unions. Congress should be dealing with the major political, social and economic issues of the day and individual unions should deal with the wage questions.

Mr. Patrick Duffy, Building Workers' Trade Union said they were being asked to give the green light to a voluntary wage restraint at a time of unstable economic growth. His union was in favour of free collective bargaining. Mr. Duffy believed that wages restraint only staved off the inevitable and all a new agreement would ensure was that they would be all poor together.

A delegate from the Electrical Trades Union said that ICTU was becoming increasingly bureaucratic and was democratic only in principle. He asked delegates to beware of sacrificing their hard-won rights for two, three or four inflated pounds.

Matt Merrigan, Amalgamated Transport & General Workers' Union, said that wages could not be planned in a free for all society. The primary function of the unions was to defend the workers and to secure increases in their wages, and the motivation for national agreements had not come from the shop floor.

Speaking in favour of the resolution to open negotiations, Mr. John Carroll, Irish Transport and General Workers' Union, said he had agreed with much that had been said regarding the role of Congress. His union had been saying the same things for years. In the final analysis, said Mr. Carroll, it would be the rank and file members of the unions through their votes who would decide on whether or not there would be another National Agreement.



● Denis Larkin, President, Irish Congress of Trade Unions, speaking at the Conference.

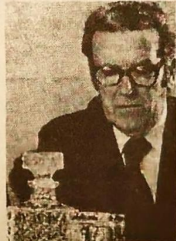
Will rank-and-file have time to decide?

"It is the rank-and-file members of the unions who will decide whether or not there will be another national agreement". This was stated by the vice-president of the I.T. & G.W.U., Mr. John Carroll, at last week's special conference of the Irish Transport & General Workers' Union.

It is important that the rank-and-file realise that with them lies the final decision. It is important that Congress leaders realise it also because if a new agreement is to be made to stick every union

member in the country must have had an opportunity of studying it, discussing it and finally voting on a ballot paper on whether he is or is not in favour of accepting it. To do this the rank-and-file will require time which is a very scarce commodity, bearing in mind that for some 60,000 workers January 1 next is the date on which a new agreement should come into effect.

Hopefully it was a realisation of this that had the Employer / Labour Conference in session less than 24 hours after last week's ICTU conference vote.



● Andrew Barr, Vice-President, Irish Congress of Trade Unions.

It is reasonable to assume that it will be at least a month before even draft proposals emerge from the

Employer / Labour meetings.

After that the proposals will have to be studied by the executive committees of the various unions — this will take at least two weeks. It is again reasonable to assume that various points will have caused enough confusion to warrant reference back to a further meeting of the Employer / Labour conference. This could account for at least another week. Union executive meetings will have to be convened again and all this should bring us up to the

beginning of December. Special delegate conferences are also on the cards so it would appear possible that the rank-and-file decision will have to be made in the Christmas holiday period.

This position would be even more ludicrous than that which applied before the current agreement came into effect. Then it will be remembered that the first set of proposals were rejected, the Employer / Labour conference had to be hurriedly reconvened and the revised proposals were voted on

in many provincial areas a matter of days before they came into effect. Many workers voting on these proposals having heard them read out during tea breaks in factory canteens.

So while the ICTU leaders and employers are locked in negotiation union members could do far worse than to ensure that, irrespective of whether they favour or oppose national agreements, facilities and time will be available for them to make a proper decision. It will be too late to do it on the first of January.

DISCRIMINATION VIA PAY PACT AT U.C.D.

What is seen as discriminatory policies employed by the management of University College, Dublin, which favour academic and administrative staff and penalise non-academic employees, has led members of No. 7 Branch, Irish Transport and General Workers Union and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers to reject the Labour Court's recommendations and to decide on industrial action in support of their claim. The issues at stake are a 10 per cent wage claim and increased Family Allowances to bring wages staff up to the level of academic staff.

Accusations of discrimination arise from the ease with which academic and administrative staff have been granted a 10 per cent wage increase, back dated to 1970, under

the Public Service Award whereas this particular award has been refused to non-academic employees on the grounds that it contravenes the National Wage Agreement.

The union's claim is based on the fact that in 1969 this pay award extended to wages as well as academic staff and that within the general public services, workers equivalent to those excluded in U.C.D., cleaners and porters for example, have been granted this particular increase. Laboratory attendants, Clerical and Cleaning Staff, Porters and Security Men are some of the job categories covered by the unions' claim. A strong argument advanced by the unions in support of their claim is the example of University College, Galway where some non-academic grades have received from 3 per cent to 7 per

cent rise outside of the National Wage Agreement limits.

Even more striking are figures produced by the unions in regard to the Family Allowances Claim showing a clear demarcation between academic and non-academic rates. Based on the 1959 and 1973 rates these are as follows:

Academic Staff				
1959	Wife	£60	Each Child	£40
1973		£107		£75
Non-Academic Staff				
1959	Wife	£20	Each Child	£11
1973		£24		£16

This wages-staff allowance does not, in fact, even extend across the board as it has been College policy since 1969 to withdraw this allowance from incoming employees

paying them £1 in lieu.

U.C.D. has had a long history of poor industrial relations, a situation which the unions feel can be largely explained by the fact that the College has no Personnel Department and all negotiations with the unions, representing 750 workers, are conducted by one official. The placing of pickets on the U.C.D. building on Thursday, 27 September was the first step in pursuit of their claim and further action is under consideration if this elicits no response from College Management.

However, many shop stewards, as reported in the Irish People on 11 May, are of the opinion that "There will be no peace in U.C.D. until the College authorities restructure their industrial relations".

The People's LIBERTIES COUNCIL TO RIVAL N.I.C.R.A.?

The search for a consensus approach towards problems in Northern Ireland by British politicians made significant progress in the past week. The Labour Party Conference at Blackpool is not to debate Northern Ireland.

This decision, reflecting the political results in Britain of the recent bombing campaign, is a handy out for the top Labour parliamentarians and also for the Tory Government. The bi-partisan policy will survive unscathed for another while, it seems.

Another trend of much significance is the declared intention of the British National Council for Civil Liberties to set up shop in Belfast. Already one S.D.L.P. Assembly member, Aidan Larkin, has pointedly referred cases of intimidation in South Derry to the N.C.C.L. This is

as public an expression as can be expected of the S.D.L.P.'s willingness to by-pass the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association in favour of the more academic "brains-trust" N.C.C.L.

The Council of Civil Liberties' decision to open shop in Belfast is even more curious when the cost of the project is examined. £8,500 is the amount being sought to finance the first year's operation. After its Annual General Meeting in spring the N.C.C.L. paid off eleven of its London H.Q. staff because of lack of funds.

An N.C.C.L. foothold in the North would also suit the British need for consensus in a crisis, the N.C.C.L. would back Britain.

Where will the cash come from?

Warrenpoint bin men strike

Refuse collection in the seaside resort of Warrenpoint, Co. Down, has not been carried out as usual for the past three weeks because of a strike by local "bin men". The strike — the second by the men in less than twelve months — is unofficial and although there has been much inconvenience caused by the stoppage there is much local support for the men's actions.

The strike is over a wage increase. The sixteen men concerned negotiated a wage rise with the Warrenpoint Urban Council last April under which they were to receive a "lead in" increase of £1 per week with other increments later. So far, however, the initial rise of £1 has not been paid and in a leaflet distributed to households in the town this week, the strikers point out that their rate of pay is much lower than that paid to any labourer in the building industry. "Some married men", they say, are taking home less than £10 per week. "Some casual workers on the various Government relief schemes are better paid than this".

Changeover

The men's wage demand has been complicated by the Whitelaw change over of local government bureaucracy. The men's employers, the Warrenpoint Urban Council, ceased to exist on October 1 and the new Newry and Mourne District Council which takes its place, has failed to make any progress on the issue to date. Negotiations with the old Urban Council were slow because its chairman, Jim McCart, did not accept the men's claim that a wage increase was justified. Mr McCart was then a member of the Irish Labour Party, but he switched to the S.D.L.P. at the last election. He is also a member of the new council but his change of political party and local council has not changed his view of the men's case, and he is unlikely to urge his fellow councillors to meet the men's demands.

The strikers cannot hope for much support from their union either. They are all members of the Municipal and General Workers Union, but the union

has refused to make the strike official or to even visit the men and examine the case. This is hardly surprising in view of the fact that the only blackleg among the strikers is Paul McEvoy, their shop steward, who still goes to work every day while the men he represents remain on strike.

Support

Support for the striking bin men has come mainly from the local James Connolly Republican Club, who also backed the men when they were on strike over working conditions last November. In a statement the Club points out that the strikers are "victims of the local government bureaucracy change-over, as well as victims of the gap between the leadership and the rank and file of the M & GWU which has typified the record of the union in this area for many years."

The Club has called on the new council to honour the men's wage increase immediately, backdated to April when it was first negotiated, and they have also called on the leadership of the Municipal and General Workers Union to stand by their own rank and file members. They point out that on two occasions in the past M & GWU branches in the town broke away from the union after unsatisfactory support from the leadership over local issues.

Support for the striking bin men has also come from the people of Warrenpoint. A measure of their support can be judged from the fact that only a few households have availed of the opportunity to pay some local entrepreneurs to remove their refuse. The continuation of this support will ensure the eventual success of the case of the Warrenpoint bin men.



● A soldier stands on guard at a vantage point. But no, it's not a British soldier at Unity Flats — it's an Irish soldier at Ceasefire Aerodrome, Baldonnel, Dublin, during the visit by Mr. Heath.

REGNA DO IT ONCE AGAIN!

Following an investigation into the affair of the Norwegian owned cash register company, Regna International Ltd., based in Derry, the Northern Ireland Ministry of Commerce has announced that the Northern Ireland Finance Corporation will take control of the company.

The announcement has been a surprise, considering the lavish and widely publicised subsidies granted by the Ministry to Regna, when the company fled bankruptcy and a £1 million debt in Norway, to set up in Derry late in 1971.

As part of the recent influx of government-encouraged foreign investment, the coming of Regna was hailed as a vital source of steady employment to help relieve the chronically neglected Derry area. Only observers of Regna's past operations, and in particular the manoeuvres of its director Mr. Jorgen S. Lien, were sceptical.

In the late 1960's Regna was making various sorts of accounting machinery and safes in Bergen, Norway. During 1968/69, the company went through a period of rapid expansions, making quick profits, until the

bottom fell out of the market in 1968. With no liquid assets to fall back on, the company was threatened with bankruptcy, and 500 workers were threatened with the loss of their jobs. The local council offered Regna 2 million Kroner for their equipment so that the workers' jobs could be preserved.

The company's directors however, decided to abandon the Norwegian workers for greener pastures, in the form of £500,000 in Northern Ireland government subsidies and cheap labour, and in October 1971, shipped their machinery to one of the new government factories in Derry.

In late 1972, following a familiar pattern, Regna International announced that they would be expanding and an additional 250 jobs were to be created. Eight months of silence followed, until the Ministry's announcement of the N.I.F.C.'s investigation and takeover to preserve the jobs of 288 Regna workers in Derry. The Ministry also announced that Jorgen Lien has been paid £175,000 by the N.I.F.C. for his entire shareholding.

The callous murder of a 19 year old girl on the Ormeau Road end of the city once again underlines the manner in which Belfast has become a city where human life is no longer valuable. A chronicle of some of the events of the past four years would make the most brutal American horror comic seem like a pure fairy tale.

It is worth reminding ourselves of such gross tragedies as the Abercorn Restaurant which left two beautiful young girls maimed for life; the multiple murders of McGurks Bar; and not far away on the New Lodge Road the slaughter of five men, unarmed, by the British Army. Then there were the Donegall Street bombs and the Oxford Street explosions, more innocent human beings blasted to their deaths.

I am also reminded of the killing of a friend, young folk singer Rosemary McCartney gunned down by madmen as she sat with her boyfriend in a taxi. Another innocent victim. Nearly two boys, brothers were executed because they kept company with Catholic girls. The Orr brothers are now part of this tragic history.

Most of the people killed in the Northern struggle will be in the main forgotten. But there are those whose names are now part of the mythology of the period. They live on in the songs and stories either of their valour or the manner of their deaths. Joe McMenamin is an example of the way in which people have sought to maintain humanity in the orgy of inhuman killing.

Along with McCann, coldly murdered by a waiting party of British troops, there has been young Quigley in Bosnia Street, his cries mingling with the rattle of SLR's as he hid his life out. Not content with killing the boy, the troops used him for target practice as he lay crumpled on the pavement.

In Raglan Street a leader of the UDA was shot to death in a van by men who thought they were striking a blow against Britain's control. His death was a tragedy as he was well known to be as anxious to win the unity of the Protestant and Roman Catholic working class. Like him, Duke Elliott was another victim of the enemies of the Irish working class, killed because he had begun to realise that the real enemies were not the struggling hardpressed people of the Falls or Shankill but the British Imperialists.

It is a sad litany, not yet ended. Most are now confused, sickened and afraid. All the political gymnastics by the main parties do not impress, the Dublin Government's inadequacy is clearly exposed, particularly when they seem to be thinking to pass the buck for the protection of Irish lives to the United Nations.

What then of the future? Now, through the experiences of the past few years, more are understanding the importance of mass movements seeking social change. There is once again a real opportunity to develop the sort of organisation which rocked and ultimately shattered the Unionist monopoly.

The Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association demonstrated to both Loyalist and Republican alike that they are still the main force in the fight against repression and for democracy. Dunganon was a demonstration of the renewed vigour of the Civil Rights Movement and we can expect a massive turn-out at the Derry march on October 6th. Now is the opportunity to demonstrate that the future lies with the mass movement for democracy.

Contraception issue on the shelf

At its annual conference held in Sligo last weekend, the Medical Union, for the second time in succession, refused to take a stand on the contraception issue. Proposed by Dr. Derrick Waldron Lynch, resolution 23 called for a family planning service to be set up by the Health Board. Speaking on the motion, Dr. Waldron-Lynch pointed out that at present it was women in the lower income brackets who were discriminated against by the failure to provide such a service, and statistics showed that women in the upper income brackets had family planning aids available to them. When it was attempted to put the resolution to the vote there were cries of objection, and a heated debate ensued.

One opposer of the resolution stated: "If we give way to contraception today, next year we'll have castration and then abortion and then euthanasia".

Several opponents of the motion pressed their arguments on moral grounds, but one woman doctor, speaking in favour of resolution 23 pointed out that it was the patients' conscience which mattered, not the doctor's.

After debating the subject for an hour, the delegates finally accepted a resolution that a committee be established to discern whether or not the subject was a matter for the Medical Union to rule upon, and that if this committee decided that the Union should come to a

decision on contraception, then a referendum would be taken amongst members in the region, and its findings submitted to the next AGM, or to a special general meeting.

The National Health Council, a government advisory body, has come out in favour of the establishment of a family planning service, as has the North Eastern Health Board.

N.I.C.R.A. MARCH IN DERRY

The ending of internment and of martial law is the demand of a protest march organised by the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association which is to take place in Derry on October 6th. The march, which is one of a series planned by N.I.C.R.A. in their "march a month" campaign, will closely follow the route of the ill-fated Bloody Sunday march, at which thirteen unarmed civilians were shot down by British paratroopers.

The demonstration will conclude with a meeting at Rossville Flats, where the speakers will be, Kevin McCorry, N.I.C.R.A. organiser, Edwin Stewart, N.I.C.R.A. secretary, James Doris, John Bond, and Mr. James Wray, whose son Jim was murdered on Bloody Sunday.

Private armies

will not be tolerated

The Provisional wing of the Legion of Mary have strongly condemned the Inter-Church meeting which took place in the Ballymascanlon Hotel, Dundalk last week. The statement, signed by a P. O'Ruain warns that any further such meetings will be met with the armed resistance of the vanguard of Irish Catholicism, in spite of dungeon, fire and sword.

Garda authorities are said to be worried by the statement and are stepping up security measures to protect members of the hierarchy. A government spokesman, from the Department of Ecclesiastical Affairs, said that they would "not tolerate any private armies with the avowed intention of acting on behalf of our sheep"; he continued "they are not needed, and as far as we are concerned they can just flock off".

A special correspondent informs us that for some time members of the Provisional Legion of Mary have been training at a secret camp outside Rome, and are known to be in possession of many canons.

It is believed that the organisation has strong support from a group of fanatical officers in the elite Swiss Guards, and that a consignment of Halberds was recently smuggled into Dublin clocks disguised as "crozier-parts". It is feared that the group may also be in possession of ground to air missiles.

When approached by an "Irish People" reporter, the press officer of the Official Legion of Mary, Mr. Nihil Obstat said that his

organisation did not wish to pontificate on the matter.

The threat of a religious guerrilla war has caused widespread tension in the north, and British Army forensic experts are checking the Silent Valley reservoir for traces of Holy Water.

R.U.C. special branch detectives today raided the offices of the Catholic Truth Society in Belfast and took away a quantity of altar wine which they reported to be "deadly". Members of the hierarchy in the north have made no objections to the police action, and it is known that for some time they have considered the society to be under the influence of an alien and unCatholic ideology — suggestions which the secretary of the C.T.S. Mr. Harry Krishna, has discounted as "ridiculous".

Meanwhile, in the Dublin Special Criminal Court today, two members of the Catholic Boy Scouts told a judge that their Bishop had recommended them to "do the stations".

Inspector P. Noster, for the prosecution, informed the court that the damage to Dundalk railway station was estimated to be in the region of £30,000.



WILL NOT YIELD TO THREATS



● Mr. Cooney, Minister for Justice, in company with other members of the Coalition cabinet, at the funeral of General Sean Mac Eoin, the "blacksmith of Ballinalee".

In an emergency television broadcast last night, an ashen faced Mr. Cooney, Minister for Justice warned of a great threat to the nation which might materialise if pupils at St. De Valera's primary school carry out their threat to refuse school lunches at noon today.

Even as Mr. Cooney's words went out to a public virtually on the verge of panic, military convoys were rumbling out of Portobello Barracks, bound for the troubled St. De Valera's.

The troops were equipped in riot gear, denim jackets, short Oxford bags and bover-boots, and looked grim and determined.

Meanwhile, back at RTE, Mr. Cooney assured the public that the government would not yield to any threats from the troublesome pupils at the school, and with a brave little smile, trying to conceal the nervous twitching at the side of his mouth, called on people to remain calm and rational. "Everyone MUST remain calm!" he screamed.

Early this morning, the area around St. De Valera's was

evacuated and only a small force of fifteen thousand Gardai were in evidence by 10 a.m. During the night troops took up positions in and around the school buildings, and the army's hand-picked team of crack marksmen, took up position on the roof. He is Private Patsy McGargle, 68.

There was a slight disturbance earlier this morning as pupils began arriving at the school after one troublesome five year old refused to allow troops to search his satchel. Scuffles began, but the children dispersed quickly when reinforcements, 200 men of the 2nd cavalry division, were seen pedalling furiously towards the school. No injuries were reported, but one little boy vomited violently over a senior army officer. As we wait nervously for the outcome of this vicious school-lunch dispute, news has just reached us that the strain of the past hours has been too much for Mr. Cooney. The Minister has been rushed to Dundrum, where a spokesman described his condition as criminally insane".

Foreign Cos. in Ireland

This county by county series is intended to illustrate the degree to which Ireland is dependent on foreign-owned industry.

Name of Company Parent company in brackets ()	Location	Product	Date Production Started
Aranbawn of Ireland, Ltd.	Ballina	Knitwear fabrics and knitwear	1969
Claremorris Ltd. (Inel Bibby Ltd., 14 High Pavement, Nottingham, England)	Claremorris	Waterproof clothing for leisure activities, particularly marine	1971
Irish Machine and Tool Co. Ltd. (P. Villshover, Esselskitchener, Mannheim)	Ballina	Twisted drills	1965 1970 expanded
Madlicut (Ireland) Ltd. (The Redstart Wool Co. Ltd., Yorkshire, England)	Kilfinagh	Stencilling canvasses	1966
Readicut Spinning (Ireland) Ltd. (Readicut International Ltd., Yorkshire, England)	Kilfinagh	Rug wool yarn	1969
Westport Textiles Ltd. (English Calico Ltd., Manchester, Lancashire) Stallfield Genies Ltd.	Westport	1) Woven cotton cloths 2) Poplin cloths, industrial cloths, cotton and synthetic mixtures	1962 1970 expanded

Wave of reaction to statement

The British Government's announcement that Corporal Punishment is to be abolished has brought a wave of reaction, particularly from the Corporal himself, a 28 year old married man with three children. Speaking to the world press in Lisburn barracks last night, Corporal Punishment revealed that he had been brought to the North as the British Army's new secret weapon and now that he was no longer of any use he was to be abolished.

His actions have been condemned by the British Army's chief chaplain, Bishop Tickle, the man responsible for holy terror in the North. The Bishop pointed out that he had the rank of an officer and that he had the power to give holy orders. He turned sharply to the Corporal and said "Left right, left right, on the double, quick march, peace be with you my son", as an example of a holy order.

An explanation of the whole affair has been given by the Commanding Officer, Major Road Ahead, who pointed out that they had changed their mind about the corporal's future and that they intended to send him overseas instead. This is referred to as a postal order.

At the same time the Commander of the British Army in the North, General Nuisance, said that they were withdrawing from Casement Park because of the G.A.A.'s insistence on implementing their ban on British soldiers playing Gaelic Football. However, they will prevent the G.A.A. re-occupying the grounds by posting two privates at the main gate — Private Property and Private No Admittance. Trespassers will be interned.



● Bishop Tickle, Chief Chaplain to the British Army.

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