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VOL. 2 NO. 8 AUGUST 1978

LUNASA 1978

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THE

STARRY

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An Camchéachta

THE

IRSP

PAPER

POWS

WINNING!

Dr. O'Fiach's honest comments about the inhuman conditions under which the protesting Republican Socialist prisoners are being held in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh has completely breached the wall of silence that the British Government has so carefully built around the political status issue.

His comparison of the prisoners, especially on an RTE interview, with the Fenians and O'Donovan Rossa is well deserved. When their victory is won, it will be due to their truly heroic resolve and determination in which the Irish people have recognised the spirit of Tom Clarke. The prisoners' relatives are justly proud of their men, the finest men in Ireland to-day, the true spearhead of human progress in their lonely campaign against the inhumanity in its ruthless path.

Dr. O'Fiach has been condemned by the Northern Ireland office, and the pro-imperialist media for speaking the truth. The silence of the Fianna Fail Government is shameful. Their argument, that since partition the Dublin Government has not admitted there were political prisoners in Ireland is irrelevant and specious. The internment camp in the Curragh was witness, testifying to the special treatment of Republican prisoners by successive Irish governments. In any case the legitimacy of partition is not recognised by the Irish Constitution. That is why Taoiseach Jack Lynch reprimanded Dr. Noel Browne for raising the question in Leinster House, saying that its implications were fraught with significance.

These prisoners are in prison for struggling against an armed British presence in the six counties. All the arguments that are used to justify the refusal of the government to extradite political prisoners to the North apply with greater strength to the legitimacy of their claim to political status.

The Dublin government must act now to make Britain clean up their pigsty in Long Kesh and to force Roy Mason to concede the prisoners' demand.



Some members and supporters of the Manchester and London IRSP Support Groups.

If the British Government persists in this petty tyranny they must raise the matter internationally. Dr. Tomas O'Fiach has given a good example by referring the matter to the Vatican. The people must redouble their efforts and above all march from Coalisland to Dungannon on 27th August to show up the deceit of Roy Mason when he says there is no support for the political prisoners' demands for just treatment.

THE GREEN

PAPER

Back to the

19th Century

The Fianna Fail Government issued their Green Paper Development for Full Employment at the end of June. This is their long awaited blueprint for curing unemployment in Ireland as promised in their Election Manifesto. It is no such thing. It has no scheme for increasing the output nor the employment in agriculture or food processing, it has no plan for developing the fisheries nor exploiting our mineral wealth, it has no reference to the possibility of pursuing an independent financial and Tariff policy as is the entitlement of a sovereign independent nation. Instead it re-introduces into Irish politics the worst social policies of imperialist capitalism. These policies have a dreadfully familiar ring in Ireland: encourage capitalist farming, land consolidation, a free market in land and individual profits at the expense of the common good; punish the poor and the unemployed; cut their benefits in real terms; cut back on such state investment as would enable them to lead satisfactory lives; make the Irish working class pay for any reduction in unemployment by reducing the share of national income they now enjoy; employ snoopers to spy on those who have to supplement their state benefits to survive; increase the Army, Police and Prison Establishment to keep the oppressed in their place. At the same time such payments as the rich might make are lowered or abolished; no rates, no car tax, low taxation, more incentives and subsidies for profiteering. And in the background there is the threat/hope of emigration.

Continued on Page 5



Congratulations to the Confexim women workers who won a victory against the IDA. They showed the right answer to the Fianna Fail Green Paper (see left) Confexim story on page 2.



# LONDON PRISONERS' MARCH

About 5,000 demonstrators demanding political status for Irish political prisoners in England and Ireland marched from Hyde Park Corner through London on July 9th last. It was the biggest demonstration in Britain since the Bloody Sunday protests in 1972 and was organised by the Prisoners Aid Committee.

Attending the march were contingents from Prisoners Aid Committee, Sinn Féin, London and Manchester IRSP Support Groups, International Marxist Group, Big Flame, Workers Revolutionary Party, Socialist Workers Party, United Troops Out Movement, Revolutionary Communist Tendency, Revolutionary Communist Group and members of the following Trade Unions: A.S.T.M.S. Manchester Central, T.G.W.U. Central London Branch, A.S.T.M.S. Edinburgh, Harringey Trades Council, N.U.J. Book Branch, National Federation of Claimants Unions and T.G.W.U. Cowley Assembly Plant and many others.

The demonstration was surrounded by a heavy police escort throughout the march.

The previous day two members of the United Troops Out Movement hurled three bags of horse manure and urine from the public gallery in the House of Commons onto the floor of the house spattering nearby M.P.s "What about the conditions in Long Kesh?", "Free Irish Political Prisoners" and "British Troops Out Now" were shouted during the protest.

The protesters later claimed that the House of Commons was selected as they were responsible for the conditions the prisoners were in.

Another demonstration took place outside Buckingham Palace on July 9th when four English women actresses sat down in front of the Household Cavalry blocking the Changing of the Guard protesting at the ill-treatment of Irish political prisoners. They were charged with obstructing the Queens Highway.

Selldridge stores in Oxford Street was the scene of a token sit-in on the

same day on the question of Irish political prisoners holding up the first day of Summer Sales and handing out thousands of leaflets. These three protests were requested by the prisoners relatives.



A section of the 5,000 strong parade carrying placards with the names of all Irish political prisoners in Britain.

## H-Block — Irish prisoners protest



Meanwhile inside the prisons a series of token hunger-strikes and roof top protests took place on July 7th in Albany, Long Lartin, Parkhurst, Wormwood Scrubs, Gartree and Wakefield which involved over 80 Irish political prisoners.

In Gartree eight prisoners spent 52 hours on the roof singing Republican songs and chanting support slogans. The Prison authorities did not interfere obviously because of the bad publicity they have received following their brutality in similar protests. This also followed the refusal by 200 prisoners in the jail to return to their cells until they were sure the prisoners would not be

maltreated.

However following the protest the authorities have retaliated. One Gartree prisoner John McCluskey who took part in the protest, but failed to get onto the prison roof, is now serving 14 days in solitary confinement. The rest of the protesters received similar punishment. In Albany all furniture has been removed from all the cells and prisoners are forced to sleep on the floor. One prisoner assaulted by warders has received a broken nose. In Parkhurst, in addition to the above, all visits have been cut to 30 minutes.

There are more than 80 Irish political prisoners in British jails

Irish Political prisoners protest at Gartree Prison: Mary Brady, Paul Holmes, Phil Sheridan, Gerry Mealey, Ronnie McCartney, Eddie O'Neill and Paul Hill.

demanding political status and the right to serve their sentences in Ireland and better visiting conditions pending a general amnesty.

Forty cases have been brought before the European Court of Human Rights and one has already been accepted alledging that various prison rules and human rights are being violated.

### BELFAST IRSP CONDEMN STATE TERROR

Speaking of the murder of 16 year old John Boyle in Dunboy, the Belfast IRSP stated: This latest murder is a further instalment of the "increased SAS type activity" promised by Roy Mason, after the 1977 Loyalist lock out, and an escalation of the attempt at a military solution. It should bring it home to those trade union leaders who called at that time for "increased security" just what their pro-imperialist stance leads to. This state terrorism will not check the national liberation struggle. There will be no peace in Ireland until the British withdraw their army and respect the democratic will of the nationally oppressed majority of the Irish people for Unity and Independence.

The dishonest of Sinn Féin the Workers Party is illustrated clearly by their claim that the new Belfast Transport Plan signifies a "victory". All that is being "saved" is a small area surrounding the Hamill Street area of Belfast.

The Workers Party abandoned the national struggle to fight on this issue and helped coin the phrase Ring Road Socialists. Walker's Independent Labour Party, who went for "municipal socialism" (what Connolly called gas-and-water Socialism) at least got their gas and water!

# VICTORY

## WOMEN'S SIT-IN PAYS OFF

Thirty girls working in the Confexim fashion factory in Drogheda have won a major victory over the Industrial Development Authority (IDA). Refusing to accept the factory owners' sob-story they launched a campaign for back-wages and holiday-pay when they were made

redundant at the end of May and held a sit-in at the factory. Now they have received almost all the wages they were due — from the IDA!

This is the first time that the IDA has accepted responsibility for the unemployment that their policies cause. However, the STARRY PLOUGH has been reliably informed that the only

reason the IDA paid the back wages was to end the sit-in so that a new foreign company could be induced to operate the factory. Clearly the IDA intends to continue its economic 'plan' which guarantees more unemployment and wastage of state finance in the form of grants.

### TAX CONCESSIONS & CHEAP LABOUR

The story of Confexim is not

unique. Like most of the foreign firms enticed to Ireland by the IDA's high grants, tax concessions and cheap labour, Adolph Bonte, representing the Dutch Textile company ELTEX, came to Drogheda just over a year ago. However, within 12 months the parent company in Holland was in trouble and the Confexim plant had to lay off staff. The workers were fooled into working for three weeks for no wages before they were given the sob-story and made redundant. But the workers fought back and occupied the factory, publicised their case, held public meetings and marched on the IDA demanding re-imbusement.

Now the IDA has agreed to pay close to £6,200 in back wages and holiday pay. The IDA managed this by paying the girls some of the grants that Adolph Bonte would have been entitled to — or that is their story. They claim that it is not a precedent and that they had no obligation to do so.

### NO JOB PLAN

The government's economic policy (and indeed that of Fine Gael and Labour as well) is to rely on foreign companies to provide jobs. This policy has been seen to fail time and time again, costing the Irish tax-payer millions of pounds for little or no return. Yet the government persists in this strategy.

The government clearly have no answer to unemployment. Workers, however, now have a reply to redundancies — occupy and demand all wages due. But even this only takes care of the immediate issue. Once paid the workers are unemployed and may face victimisation. Nationalisation of the banks and natural resources would provide the necessary finance for state investment in providing full employment in Ireland, although this is unlikely to occur under capitalism. Meanwhile Irish workers are faced with a long cold winter, with unemployment and inflation rising drastically.



# SPEARHEAD

abotage risons xplosions rests aids block xecutions assaults eath

The new propaganda series, **SPEARHEAD**, transmitted by the Independent Broadcasting Authority (I.B.A.) has come under severe criticism from British journalists, broadcasters, trade unionists and radical organisations. The series, broadcast at peak time (7.30 p.m.), presents a totally distorted view of the British Army in Ireland. The programme fails to explain the political background to the British Army's presence in Ireland; how the "political thugs" with "reddish straggling hair, pale skin and tired eyes" (the Republicans)

Despite the widespread protests by journalists over the inadequacies and censorship of Irish coverage — which London Weekend Television acknowledged in **LOOK HERE** on July 8th — it is clear that the blandishments of N.I. Secretary Roy Mason and Tony N.I. spokesperson Airey Neave have paid off, as has the hospitality extended by the 'security forces' to Lady Plowden, chairperson of the IBA.

A strong picket organised by the United Troops Out Movement was placed on the IBA offices to coincide with the first transmission of the propaganda series. In the House of Commons a film entitled **HOME SOLDIERS** was screened showing the real role of the British Army in Ireland backed up by corroborative statements by ex-soldiers who called for a total British disengagement from Ireland.

It takes really sick people to produce a film that boasts about the atrocities committed in a country occupied by force of arms. **SPEARHEAD**, in time, will receive the same notoriety that the **GREEN BERETS**, a USA propaganda film, received when the US was eventually forced to flee Vietnam.

have remained undefeated and can retain popular support.

When one considers that the programme is the answer to the Starksy & Hutch-type local programme demanded by Airey Neave; that the Tommies are portrayed as hard pressed sorting out the irrational natives; that the IBA banned the June 8th This Week programme on the Amnesty International torture allegations and another programme last August on the queens visit to the North; that the IBA failed to even mention a 5,000 strong protest in London demanding the release of Irish political prisoners on July 9th; that the TV TIMES printed a **SPEARHEAD** story which concludes that people who protest at such murders as that of John Boyle, an innocent 16-year-old murdered by troops in July, are not to be believed.

## Troops out call in Edinburgh

Britain.

The Royal Scot Dragoons tri-centenary celebration in Edinburgh took the form of a tank parade through Princes Street on July 6th last but was met by protesting members of the Edinburgh Irish Solidarity Campaign who were protesting at the British propaganda effort to imply public support for the real work of the army in Ireland and in

Before the parade took place a deputation of the Committee told Lothian Town Council that the parade should be cancelled but the Council refused to do so. The protest received sympathy from "a surprising number of the people of Edinburgh who ended up watching this manifestation of military might by the state" said one of the organisers of the protest.

## BANNED FROM H-BLOCK

The Northern Ireland Office has refused British M.P.s permission to visit the H-Block in Long Kesh. The ban was supported by Conservative and Unionist M.P.s. One Labour M.P. said that the refusal would enforce the

belief that "there was something to hide" in the H-Block. Don Concannon, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, who announced the ban, was clearly ruffled at the criticisms from his own party members.

## H-BLOCK PROTEST & INTERNMENT ANNIVERSARY

organised by Provisional Sinn Féin and supported by IRSP London and Manchester Support Groups. Socialist Workers Party, United Troops Out Movement, Revolutionary Communist Group, Workers Revolutionary Party, International Marxist Group.

## HYDE PARK, SPEAKERS CORNER

Aug. 13th 2.30 p.m.

## POLITICAL STATUS FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS

Weekly Public Meetings

Every Saturday 2-4 p.m. Kilburn Square, Speakers include: Sinn Féin, IRSP, UTOM, I.M.G. and others.

## INQUIRY CALL

Rank and file members of the Union to which Brian Maguire belonged before his murder in Castle-reagh last May recently passed the following resolution: "We, the members of the Finsbury Park Branch Number 2, request that our union, the A.U.E.W., demands a public enquiry into the death of Brian Maguire A.U.E.W./T.A.S.S. Branch Secretary. The death took place in Castlereagh and the RUC statement said he was found hanged in his cell, barely 36 hours after his arrest." The proposal was passed on June 26th last and forwarded to the T.A.S.S. section of the union.

The London and Manchester IRSP Support Groups can be contacted through:

James O'Brien  
Box 6  
182 Upper Street  
London N.1. or  
Raymond Hogan  
Old Trafford  
Manchester M16 9JR.



British tanks celebrate 300 years of British imperialist colonisation and meet the same opposition they met with in every country they colonised.  
Placards line the route of the Scots Dragoons.



Black box



# NATIONAL LIBERATION & CLASS STRUGGLE

The position of the IRSP on the Irish national liberation struggle and its relation to socialism is, in its basic principles, the position of James Connolly. It is therefore worthwhile attempting to outline Connolly's position in his own words. His manifesto for the Irish Socialist Republican Society in 1896 included the following:

"That the subject of one nation to another, as of Ireland to the authority of the British Crown, is a barrier to the free political and economic development of the subjected nation, and can only serve the interests of the exploiting classes of both nations.

"That, therefore, the national and economic freedom of the Irish people must be sought in the same direction, viz. the establishment of an Irish Socialist Republic, and the consequent conversion of the means of production, distribution and exchange into the common property of society, to be held and controlled by a democratic state in the interests of the entire community.

Later he wrote:

"The I.S.R.P. was founded in Dublin by a few workmen whom the writer had succeeded in interesting in his proposition that the two currents of revolutionary thought in Ireland, the socialist and the national, were not antagonistic but complementary, and that the Irish socialist was in reality the best patriot, but in order to convince the Irish people of that fact he must first learn to look inward upon Ireland for his justification, rest his arguments upon the facts of Irish history, and be a Champion against the Subjection of Ireland and all that it implies. That the Irish question was at bottom an economic question, and that the economic struggle must first be able to function nationally before it could function internationally, and as socialists were opposed to all oppression, so should they ever be foremost in the daily battle against all its manifestations, social and political."

In 1911, when he returned from the USA to join the Socialist Party of Ireland and went to Belfast to organise the ITGWU he had to deal with the British based Independent Labour Party the party of which William Walker was a prominent member, Walker, (as Connolly reluctantly had to point out in the course of controversy) had in his Belfast election campaign of 1905 given a promise to the Belfast Protestant Association that he would oppose any change in the Coronation Oath (declaring transubstantiation idolatry and maintaining the Protestant succession and exclusion of Catholics from high State offices); that he would "resist every attack upon the legislative enactments provided by our forefathers as necessary safeguards against the political encroachments of the papacy"; would try to disenfranchise the "Roman Catholics and disloyal party" which had hindered the business of the House of Commons; and that he would uphold the interests of Protestantism because "Protestantism means protesting against superstition, hence true Protestantism is synonymous with labour."

In a plea to the I.L.P. for socialist unity in Ireland, Connolly wrote:

"The I.L.P. in Belfast believe that the Socialist movement in Ireland must perform remain a dues-paying organic part of the British Socialist movement, or else forfeit its title to be considered a part of International Socialism, whereas the Socialist Party of Ireland maintains that the relations between Socialism in Ireland and in Great Britain should be based upon comradeship and mutual assistance and not upon dues-paying, should be fraternal and not organic, and should operate by exchange of literature and speakers rather than by attempts to treat as one, two peoples of whom one has for 700 years nurtured an unending martyrdom rather than admit the unity or surrender its national identity. The Socialist Party of Ireland considers itself the only international Party of Ireland since its conception of Internationalism is that of a free federation of free peoples, whereas that of the Belfast branches of the I.L.P. seems scarcely distinguishable from Imperialism, the merging of subjugated peoples in the political system of their conquerors.

For the propagation universally of our ideal of a true internationalism there is only required the spread of reason and enlightenment amongst the peoples of the earth, whereas the conceptions of internationalism tacitly accepted by our comrades of the I.L.P. in Belfast required for its spread the flash of the sword of militarism, and the roar of a British 80-ton gun."

Add nowadays "the sawn-off shot gun of the SAS", and we shall see that little has changed since Connolly's day.

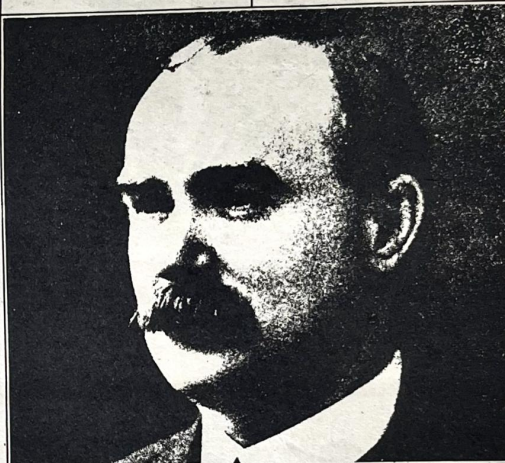
As early as 1899 Connolly saw the importance for socialists of destroying imperialism, of which the hated British Empire was then the greatest example:

"Scientific revolutionary socialism teaches us . . . that colonial expansion and the conquest of new markets are necessary for the prolongation of the life of capitalism, the prevention of colonial expansion and the loss of markets to countries capitalistically developed, such as England, precipitates economic crises there, and so gives an impulse to revolutionary thought and helps to shorten the period required to develop backward countries and thus prepare the economic conditions needed for our triumph."

The main objections to the armed national liberation struggle centre on the six county Protestants. From those who pose as enlightened liberals, such as Conor Cruise O'Brien, to the "Republican Congress" tradition on the

left, it is argued that the orange resistance to Irish Independence makes it a crime to take up arms to drive the British out of Ireland. In this connection the authority of James Connolly has been invoked as supporting the policy summed up in the Belfast wall and poster slogans "Workers kill sectarianism," "Sectarianism kills workers" etc. In fact, Connolly's sympathies would have been far more with the person who changed one such wall-slogan to read:

"Sectarianism kills Catholics". If this strikes the reader as outrageous, it is an indication of how far the distortion of the real James Connolly has gone.



For instance George Gilmore in a letter to the *Irish Times* asserted that Connolly gave an order that "not a shot was to be fired in Ulster." No evidence was given for this assertion. But it was repeated by Noel Browne (equally without evidence) in an *Irish Times* article on Republicanism and Socialism. Connolly's reason being given as his certainty that armed struggle would lead to "sectarianism." In *Socialist Worker Review* June, 1978, Brian Trench writes of Connolly's "admonition that 'not a shot' was to be fired in Ulster". Presumably this accounts for Trench's belief that "Connolly was himself ambiguous and uncertain on this question".

In fact Connolly was not only clear and certain on the question, but repeatedly in his actual writings he categorically took the opposite position from the "not a shot" legend. In fact he wrote about the Home Rule Party's proposed acceptance of partition.

"And, lo and behold, the trusted guardians of the people, the vaunted saviours of the Irish race, agree in front of the enemy . . . and in the face of the world to sacrifice to the bigoted enemy the unity of the nation and along with it the lives, liberties and hopes of that portion of the nation which in the midst of the most hostile surroundings have fought to deep the faith in things national and progressive.

"To it ('the betrayal of the national democracy of industrial Ulster') labour should give the bitterest opposition, against it *Labour in Ulster should fight even to the death*, if necessary, as our fathers fought before us." (Irish Worker, 14th March, 1914. Our italics.)

"It is felt that the proposal to leave the Home Rule minority at the mercy of an ignorant majority with the evil record of the Orange party is a proposal that should never have been made, and that the establishment of such a scheme should be resisted with armed force if necessary.

Personally I entirely agree with those who think so: Belfast is bad enough as it is; what it would be like under such rule the wildest imagination cannot conceive."

(Forward, 21st March, 1914. Our italics.)

So much for Connolly's opinion of the right to armed resistance to Orange rule. What would have been his reaction to the theory that militarily such resistance had no chance, that it would provoke a "bloodbath," a "Congo situation?"

"It is certain that the Home Rule population of Belfast, indeed of Ulster generally, have no fears whatever upon the score. Nationalists, Socialists, Liberals, to put them in the order of their numerical importance, feel quite confident that were the forces of the Crown withdrawn entirely, the Unionists could or would put no force into the field that the Home Rulers of all sections combined could not protect themselves against with a moderate amount of ease."

(Forward, 28th March, 1914. Our italics.)

Connolly had to deal with a pro-imperialist consciousness in the Northern Trade Unions, as well as in the ILP:

In the north the trade unions are for the most part content to play the orange game, and are as bodies merely passive allies of the capitalist-landlord faction in warring upon the progressive movement."

Just as today declarations in favour of 8 Co. federalism are being made without consultation with the people and after years of secret conferences "sworn to confidentiality", so partition was said to be wanted by the people of Ulster before they had been asked. Connolly appealed to the working class:

"In this great crisis of the history of Ireland, I desire to appeal to the working class — the only class whose true interests are always on the side of progress — to take action to prevent the betrayal of their interests contemplated by those who have planned the exclusion of part of Ulster from the Home Rule Bill. Every effort is now being made to prevent the voice of the democracy being heard in those counties and boroughs which it is callously proposed to cut off from the rest of Ireland. Meetings are being rushed through in other parts of Ireland, and at those meetings wirepullers of the United Irish League and the Ancient Order of Hibernians (Board of Erin) are passing resolutions approving of the exclusion, whilst you who will suffer by this dastardly proposal are never even consulted but, on the contrary, these same organisations are working hard to prevent your voice being heard, and have done what they could to prevent the calling of meetings, of holding of demonstrations which you could register your hatred of their attempt to betray you into the hand of the sworn enemies of democracy, of labour, and of nationality.

An instance of this attempt to misrepresent you may be quoted from the *Irish press* of March 26. In a letter from the *Irish Press* Agency it says:

"The proposal, representing the limit of concession and made 'as the price of peace' would only mean, if accepted, that the Counties of Down, Derry, Antrim, and Armagh would remain as they are for six years at the end of which time they would come in automatically under Home Rule. They know, too, that the Nationalists in these four counties are perfectly willing to assent to this arrangement and that they are the Nationalists most concerned."

The second part of the statement I have quoted is an outrageous falsehood, as every one knows. The Nationalists of the four counties have not been asked their opinion, and if any politician would dare to take a plebiscite upon this question of exclusion or no exclusion, the democracy of Ulster would undoubtedly register a most emphatic refusal to accept this proposal. And yet so-called Home Rule journals are telling the world that you are quite willing to be cut off from Ireland and placed under the heel of the intolerant gang of bigots and enemies of progress who for so long have terrorised Ulster.



# THE GREEN PAPER

# Back to the 19th Century



The Green Paper which is directed mainly at Trade Unionists and investors is neither objective, scientific nor is it based on any original research. It is a naked attempt to brainwash the leaders of opinion into accepting The Big Lie, for unfortunately it can be assumed in Ireland that the general public will never read it, that it is high wages and social welfare benefits that cause unemployment. This is admitted openly on page 6: "We will not meet the challenge unless there is a fundamental change in attitudes. The problem before us is of great magnitude and calls for radical policies and actions. In drawing them up we can take what is best from traditional thinking but we must also be prepared to undertake new approaches, even if they entail cost and sacrifice". The radical policies are to give free unfettered rein to International Capital to further exploit and ultimately destroy the Irish working class. This is covered on page 5 by the hypocritical contradiction: "The pursuit and attainment of full employment within a framework of fiscal responsibility is the Government's single most important social and economic objective at the present time." The blanket phrase "fiscal responsibility" is the key to the thinking of the Paper. Fiscal policy and taxes and government expenditure must be judged to be "responsible" by the financial masters, the Finance Ministers of the E.E.C. On page 16: it is explained why Government expenditure has to be reduced by 1980 and why there have to be cuts in the gross amounts spent on social benefits and investment leading to a reduction in the Government's borrowing. Without these cuts and acceptance of the new doctrine that "Those who have employment already must be prepared to make the financial contributions and provide the opportunities of work for the unemployed" (page 71) increased borrowing would be necessary to slow down the rate of growing unemployment left alone to create any new jobs. Such borrowing we are told would "not be acceptable to the Government. Moreover it would conflict with our EEC obligation to reduce progressively the borrowing requirements as a proportion of Gross National Product and could seriously damage our international credit standing" (page 16) So it is the

## Green Paper Threatens Irish Working Class

- No extra output
- No development
- No fiscal independence
- No Labour Court
- No Strikes

plain truth that the Government's Plan is to cut down in real terms the benefits that the Irish working class have won through centuries of struggle and resistance. The Irish nation and its resources are to be handed over yet further to the international financiers and capitalists. They are to be rewarded for buying up Ireland (referred to as investment) by being allowed to dictate the ways of repressing any resistance from the working class and small farmers.

### GAINS THREATENED

Among the gains that the Irish working class has won through struggle and resistance have been A Strong Trade Union Movement, The Labour Court as a means of arbitration in Industrial Disputes, Recognition of the Rights of Organised Labour to be consulted on Economic and Social policy (a kind of fifth estate in liberal jargon) and provision of good quality Housing by the Local Authorities. All are now threatened because they are alleged to threaten Profit - the capitalists' and financiers' share of the national output to which they make no contribution.

A warning is given to the Irish Congress of Trade Unions which negotiated the 1978 National Pay Agreement allowing 7% increases in basic pay rates within 1978. There is to be no marking up of wages in line with those workers who may be able to point to their increased productivity. In short even though it is estimated that inflation will be at least at a rate of 13% and price rises 18% there are to be no increases above 7% for the lower paid and socially useful workers. But there is to be five years of industrial peace - that is the working class must stand

by and see their living standards cut and any hope of a future for their children wasted. As the Green Paper says on page 89: "There is scope for improving the climate of industrial relations through greater awareness of the damage done to our development efforts by prolonged disputes... Our economy cannot afford the luxury of such irresponsibility".

The Labour Court has proved its value in protecting the real wages of the Irish worker since its establishment in 1946 and is the only distinctively Irish institution that exists to see that justice is done to the Irish working class. The new Commission on Industrial Relations is going to take as its priority, examining the Labour Court, not the sweated industries, nor the problem of exploited workers or profiteers who do not honour their obligations; make a recommendation about it in isolation from the whole field of Employer/Labour relations and take action on it. In the light of

and social statistics created by the failure of the Coalition Government to take a census in 1976. But it should be bought and studied by all serious Irish socialists and republicans because it is the clearest possible demonstration of the bankruptcy of Fianna Fail's Social and Economic philosophy and the impossibility of dealing with the problem of unemployment in the 26 counties with the present political structures: an armed British presence in the 6 counties, membership of the EEC and government in the interest of the international capitalist class. It has equal relevance for the 6 counties where unemployment is now running at an overall figure of 13% (the statistics are better) and in the nationalist areas is as high as 30%.

## LOWER TAXES AND MORE GRANTS FOR RICH

The Proclamation of the Irish Republic in 1916 guaranteed equal rights and equal opportunities to all its citizens and declared its resolve "to pursue the happiness and prosperity of the whole nation and of all its parts, cherishing all the children of the nation equally". De Valera's Constitution of 1937 (Article 6) gave the people the right "in final appeal, to decide all questions of national policy, according to the requirements of the common good" and (Article 45) laid down that "The State shall, in particular direct its policy towards securing that the citizens (all of whom men and women equally, have the right to an adequate means of livelihood may through their occupation find the means of making reasonable provision for their domestic needs," and "the State pledges itself to safeguard with special care the economic interests of the weaker sections of the community". But Fianna Fail's Green Paper in June 1978 says, p. 71: "Those who have employment already must be prepared to make the financial contributions and provide the opportunities of work for the unemployed" all the sacrifice has to come from the working class whose wages and salaries are already over-taxed whilst the 34,000 commercial farmers who are reaping all the benefits of Common Market membership and the wealthy 5% who own over 75% of the wealth of the country make no contribution but get further subsidies and lower taxes!

### DOLE TO BE CUT

There is only one reference to the possibility of promoting Industrial Cooperatives as a means of giving people full employment and we are told (page 45) that

the Economic and Social Research Institute is studying their potential in Ireland and will report before the end of the year. 1978 is the 105th anniversary of the founding of the successful productive agricultural cooperative at Rahaline in Co. Clare. But they are determined to cut the Dole which John Healy, no socialist himself, described in *The Irish Times* 17 June as "the subsidy to live on the land, the one act in sixty years of self-government which came nearest to implementing the constitutional declaration to maintain as many families as possible on the land of Ireland as possible" by disallowing the claims of thousands of claimants whilst watching for their opportunity to abolish it completely. On June 19th Healy writes: "Fianna Fail had four years in opposition. They told us they developed the great Think Tank. They called on

"Government to get out of the way because they had plans that would get this country moving again... And now! Twenty five study groups examining possible options with a view to future possible action conditional upon half-a-dozen factors all of which are carefully outside the control of the Executive".

Martin O'Donoghue, Minister of Planning and Development, a new office created especially for him, is Jack Lynch's white-haired boy, and the author of this disgraceful production. A self-made man from a working class background he is obsessed by petty vindictiveness against the class he betrayed. How else can one explain his minute concentration on the large numbers of married women who claim disability benefits and the unemployed who "do the double" as the great enemies of full employment in our society. He is a Professor of Economics at Trinity College, the fount of soupism in Ireland and the last bastion of landlord values. He is a worthy descendant of Nassau Senior and the other Trinity College Political Economists who advised the British Government in the nineteenth century. They solved the Irish under-employment problem some called it the crisis of over-population during the Great Famine by starving ONE MILLION people to death and encouraging the unsupervised unaided flight of over TWO MILLION others (called voluntary migration).

### CUT-PRICE SERVANTS

O'Donoghue's great "original" contribution to solving the unemployment crisis is to provide cut-price servants to the rich. The luxury over-priced houses in Killiney and Foxrock with which he is so familiar, need decoration and maintenance.

/continued over ...

- Land Consolidation
- Dole cuts
- Reduced Work and Pay
- Less Council Houses
- Tax and Rates Cuts to Rich

The Green Paper is available from the Government Stationery Office, G.P.O. Arcade, Dublin 1, is 90 pages long and costs 90 pence. It is a deceitful, shoddy, repetitious booklet, based on no original research; it does not even give the numbers of unemployed nor has the new Ministry of Planning made any attempt to fill the gap in the Irish economic



## REVIEW

### Beyond Orange and Green by Belinda Probert

Academic Press £6.95

In the publisher's blurb for this book we read: "Dr. Probert sees the eventual 'reconciliation' of orange and green as being by way of going *beyond orange and green* to a political system no longer fraught with irreconcilable mythologies." The dustcover claims "She discovers a perspective of Ulster (sic) politics which promises a liberation from orange and green enslavements... in the less emotionally-charged (sic) landscape beyond orange and green, there is hope, perhaps the only hope, for the 'people' — (every politician and every paramilitary group claims to be speaking and working on behalf of the people!)"

This contemptuous tone has the spontaneous ring of authenticity. There is an acknowledgement of financial assistance from Lancaster (Britain) and Murdoch (Australia) universities, and sincere thanks to John Bayley, whose Northern Ireland Research Institute (backed by the Ariel foundation) operated in Belfast in 1971 when Ms Probert's several years' residence in Belfast began. Ms Probert's interest lies clearly, like John Bayley's in presenting an analysis and finding a solution to 'the Ulster Conflict' (a 'reconciliation') which will be acceptable to such backers. That is why the dustcover can say "Using mainly though not exclusively the techniques of analysis discovered by Marx and further developed by his followers" etc. What the other techniques are is not revealed. But to ensure the effectiveness of this book (which "must be read by anyone engaged in or thinking about the Northern Ireland Crisis" — dustcover) — and especially among the left, the publisher's blurb claims "it is written from a Marxist standpoint". As the man said, "Of course we're all Marxists nowadays."

What would be most acceptable to imperialism would be the development Ms Probert suggests. "The real battle for working class unity in Northern Ireland has only just begun, for the dominance of nationalist ideology within the Catholic working class is almost as strong as that of Orange ideology within the Protestant working class" The emergence of a left loyal opposition (cf. Glenn Barr and Paddy Devlin) within an independent Ulster is not far from such thinking.

Ms Probert starts out with Althusser's premise of "the relative autonomy of the superstructures and their specific effectivity" which she says means in the Irish situation that the Loyalists are an independent force in Irish politics. If this sounds like gobbledegook to the reader's ears then don't be alarmed, because gobbledegook is precisely what it is. Ms Probert's meaningful premise, is in fact meaningless in the Irish situation. The purpose of Ms Probert's book is to show that "the object of British intervention in Northern Ireland has been to stabilize a conflict which in no foreseeable way has the significance which has been attributed to it" by Republican Socialists.

Ms Probert writing as a 'marxist' applies her pseudo-marxism to Irish history and reveals that "by 1919,

the British Government strongly opposed the exclusion of Ulster from Home Rule, for the retention of British authority in any part of Ireland was seen by both the Conservatives and Liberals as a potential liability rather than a strategic or economic advantage." In stating this Ms Probert is being neither very historical, scientific nor marxist. From the ivory tower she has managed to overlook 'incidents' such as the 1916 Rising, the Tan War, the vehemence of Irish opposition to conscription, the 'statemanship' — as the English call it — of Lloyd George in ensuring that British authority did most decidedly retain strategic and economic authority in Ireland and the 'Economic War' against the Free State. What is more, whilst academia is apparently a confusing and ponderous place, surely an academic, particularly one calling herself a marxist, can grasp the most elementary fact that it is not in the nature of imperialists to relinquish control of their colonial possessions with sighs of gratitude. Ms Probert must indeed revert back to Althusser if she is to explain how the Curragh Mutiny was the expression of an independent force in Irish politics and not, as Marx or Lenin would undoubtedly explain it, the act of the agents of Imperialism in the interests of Imperialism. But then Althusser is most concerned to show that socialist revolutions are not, indeed must not be, nasty and upsetting social upheavals, and there is an alternative — the parliamentary road to socialism — and that of course the transition from capitalism to socialism will be painless. In fact, Althusser's brand of socialism is as far a cry from the writings of Marx and Lenin themselves, as Ms Probert is from the 'traditional' view of Connolly.

Ms Probert speaks as if capitalism has played an objectively progressive role in Ireland and yet speaks of the subsequent alignment of the Northern and Southern economies on a neo-colonial footing. The problem, according to her, arises because the Unionist monolith was unable to respond politically to the fundamental economic changes, and thence 'the promise of reform' was the pebble which shattered Unionism creating Loyalism as a force in Irish politics.

Loyalism has proved to be the rock on which the mainstream of the Irish Left has met catastrophe over the past ten years — indeed for far longer. How, asks Ms Probert, do we explain the failure of major outbreaks of relatively united proletarian militancy in the 1919 strikes and the Outdoor Relief Riots in 1932, to shatter Orangeism? Surely the answer is that such instances of united proletarian militancy failed to make any political difference because the issues were confined strictly to the realm of economic demands. In other words the Irish Left recoiled from the political war in 1919, as determinedly as they had done in 1916 — with the honourable exception of Connolly — and as they still recoil from it to-day. The revolutionary cry of Connolly "that the cause of Labour is the cause of Ireland, and the cause of Ireland the cause of Labour" falls as always on deaf ears. The mainstream of the Irish Left either openly or covertly accepts a tactical two-nationism position, without reflecting that such economism has done little to further the cause either of Labour or of Ireland.

Ms Probert is dishonest on the subject. Whilst making great play of disagreeing with the overt two-nationism of another conflict researcher, Anders Boserup, (the BICO thesis which he recommends has been too difficult to promote in respectable circles) she slips straight references to 'Ulster Nationalism' into her analysis. She agrees with the SFWP that the establishment of a genuinely democratic assembly in Northern Ireland is the prerequisite to any settlement in which the working class may have a political voice. Such a demand is two-nationist, because it concedes to the Northern Ireland state,

undemocratic in its origins, undemocratic throughout its existence, the right to self-determination on the grounds that the Loyalists are a separate and equal political force (or as Ms Probert would have it 'independent'). Such a demand denies the Irish working class as a whole the right to self-determination. The point forever ignored is that the Irish working class can only benefit in a united Ireland which is socialist; the national liberation struggle then is directed against imperialism in all its manifestations and a political settlement is not and cannot be its sole objective. Ms Probert herself points out that the Irish working class as a whole can only suffer in the neo-colonial situation, that Ireland will only be industrialised as an ancillary to Europe, and that capital of its nature centralizes. Were Ms Probert a Marxist she would have to admit that the misery of the H-Blocks, the SAS murder squads lying in wait, Castlereagh Torture Centre, the Special Criminal Court, Portlaoise, the Heavy Gang etc. etc. all exist because the Irish working class as a whole is in a position to oust imperialism, and that the State Repression machine is so huge precisely because a section of that working class is challenging the grip of imperialism so strongly. The struggle is localised because the political problem is localised. The immediacy of the war in the North does not detract from the fact that it is a war against imperialism and its agents in Ireland. The Six Counties are the front line of that war.

On imperialism Ms Probert quotes approvingly from a violently anti-Republican tract, Van der Straeten and Daufoux, *The Counter-Revolution in Ireland* (by which is meant the Republican movement): "Imperialism is only a system of private international exchange in which finished products of different organic composition are exchanged at their market value, a system which results in the domination of one country over another, or of one region over another." This tract is also quoted to suggest that "The Irish working class no longer has anything to gain from an alliance with the nationalist petite bourgeoisie, because this bourgeoisie no longer has a role to play in the capitalist arena. Working class interests lie in an alliance with England, whether it be with capitalism and the English State, which alone are able to provide unemployment assistance and to furnish jobs in times of social peace, or with the English proletariat." (!)

With such a do-it-yourself Marxist kit you could prove anything.

Ms Probert manages to survey the past 10 years with only this reference to Republicans. "The IRA was not directly involved in the growth of the Civil Rights Movement." An in-depth look at just one event — the mid-Ulster by-election in 1969 — might give Ms Probert an understanding of Irish politics which her painstaking analysis of Loyalist factions did not. Initially there were two nominations for candidate, Kevin Agnew of the NICRA Executive and Austin Currie. Currie was unacceptable to the *Republican Movement* because he was, and is, a middle-class Catholic nationalist. Kevin Agnew, a lifelong Republican, was unable to stand because the *Republican Movement* had not at that time made a decision on its abstentionist policy in elections. Kevin Agnew withdrew in favour of a non-Republican Civil Rights campaigner, Bernadette Devlin.

The anti-imperialist movement is fragmented and experiences continuing political problems, but nonetheless is united in its ultimate objective of a united free Ireland. Ms Probert — who came to us from England "to elucidate the interests of the working class and its allies" — has done an intellectual propaganda operation on behalf of the British Establishment and their allies in Ireland. It makes a change from black propaganda — and will certainly be palatable to the well heeled and articulate — but at the end of the day it is still propaganda.

## New Jobs —

- Army,
- Police,
- Prisons,
- Domestic Service
- Dole Snoopers



they carry out!

### WORK-SHARING IS THE OTHER "SOLUTION" OFFERED

Workers are expected to lie down and accept severe reductions in take-home pay through denying themselves overtime, taking long unpaid holidays and accepting a shorter working life (retirement at 50) whilst no restrictions are placed on the amount of land a man can grab, the number of directorships a profiteer can have or the level of profit a businessman can extort. This inequality of treatment, the easy path for the rich and harsh treatment for the working class is justified as methods "which do not call for unacceptably high levels of taxation or Government borrowing". It is spelled out again and again that it is the European bosses who will not tolerate any more Government borrowing or increased taxation.

### PROFITS BEFORE PEOPLE

The determination not to interfere with profits is justified as the rich are the section of the community from which most investment has come. Whilst this may be true of European countries it certainly is not true of Ireland where small farmers and the state have both greater records of investment in productive enterprises than rich people.

The following paragraph: "A rapid drive for full employment will call for more investment and funds to finance it. Profit is one of the two main sources of these funds, the other being savings by individuals. Since historically a greater proportion of profits than of wages tends to be saved and reinvested increased investment tends to accompany increased profits" shows the complete poverty of thought and double-talk of The Green Paper.

Not a word about WHERE the profits will be invested nor the historic failure of this system in Ireland where its only result can be Emigration or Starvation.

The Irish Working Class have been warned. They must either organise at once to defend themselves or perish. Dismay and disbelief are natural but wasteful responses. Transitional demands must be supported but they are no substitute for the revolutionary change which alone can guarantee profitable, productive employment for all.

For Capitalists equality of educational and health benefits have gone too far, for socialists we are only beginning to restructure society towards equality and satisfaction for all. The Irish people now have the opportunity to seize their own destiny, and to drive all the political and economic charlatans and collaborators from their shores.

Continued from Page 5

This is to be provided by armies of the unemployed "placed" or a temporary or permanent basis in the homes

(not of the sick or old or needy) but of tax-payers who will be able to deduct the wages paid from their tax-bill and may even get a pay-roll subsidy into the bargain let alone a subsidy on the "improvements"



# THE STATE TERRORISTS

Part II — International Co-operation

If the most powerful imperialist power in the world could not defeat the Vietnamese people in their liberation war, what chance has it of defeating the rising militancy of the international working class? With its back to the wall, Western Imperialism is forced to take action on a number of fronts. Included among these actions are — special legislation introduced to fight unofficial strikes, the imprisonment of militant workers, increased control of all aspects of the media and the co-ordination of the special anti-terrorist groups set up by the various Western power governments.

Over half-a-dozen State-terrorist groups have been on liason or secondment tours of duty in the North of Ireland as have the makers of the wide range of anti-terrorist equipment which has been used in the North. Secure in the knowledge that they have been well tested 'on the ground' in the North of Ireland the Spanish Government purchased rubber bullets C.R. gas and other anti-terrorist equipment from the British government. This equipment will be used against supporters of E.T.A. the Basque Separatist Group and other left-wing supporters in Spain.

By far, the most major public example of co-operation between State Terrorist Groups was when French and Belgian paratroopers parachuted into Kolwezi, the important mining centre in the Shaba province of ZAIRE. While the French and Belgians provided their elite paratroopers, America and Britain provided the transport planes to fly fuel and supplies to Zaire for use by the Belgians and French. A special "Shaba Task Force" had been set up to meet the threat to the Western powers' interests in Zaire. Co-ordinator of this "Shaba Task Force" was General Alexander Haig, commander of NATO troops in Europe. Despite the Western Press' determined attempt to portray this intervention as a rescue attempt on behalf of the whites who worked at Kolwezi it was obvious to all that copper, the main resource of ZAIRE and fear of the loss of it to the Western sphere of influence, was the main reason the paratroopers were dropping on Kolwezi.

## Parachutists

But there was also another important reason for the intervention. West Germany who was also involved in the "Shaba Task Force" had a very special interest in the province of Shaba. In February 1977 a large part of the province which was equal to the size of Britain was leased for a 25 year period to the West German company, OTRAG Transport and Raketten which is known as OTRAG. The company paid £200 million to Mobutu, the American puppet of ZAIRE. Citizens of ZAIRE had to depart from the area which was to be used to test secret Western German weapons, some of a nuclear nature. The rebel attack on Kolwezi was launched the day before rocket testing was to begin at the OTRAG missile company's range at Manano. This is about 190 miles from Kolwezi — the first target of the Congo National Liberation Front (F.N.L.C.).

The public example of co-operation between the Western State Terrorist Groups was when the press reported the arrival in Rome on Mar. 19th '78 of 32 West German anti-terrorist experts to join the hunt for the kidnapped former Prime Minister Aldo Moro and his Left Wing abductors. They also sent two members of the SAS at the request of the Italian Government. The West German experts set up a computer centre in Rome which was directly linked to the major computer center in WIESBADEN, West Germany. With the aid of the German experts, the Italian police were able to plug directly into the vast repository of data held in Wiesbaden's memory banks. At the touch of a button, information about the dental records, favoured weapons, hangouts of 'terrorists' around the

world could be summoned up in seconds. Fed with new material every day the Wiesbaden operation is at the heart of West Germany's fight against 'terrorism' and it is likely to form the axis of a concerted campaign by Western Imperialism in its fight against the rising militancy of the European working class. This fact was borne out when W. Germany, France, Switzerland and Italy met in April '78 to discuss methods of clamping down on terrorist activities by pooling their information in a common computer network.

Co-operation between the various State Terrorist Groups is not solely confined to European powers. On August 9th 1970 'La Prensa' a daily paper in 'Buenos Aires' reported a meeting between the security forces of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay to deal with the guerrilla menace. It has been reported also that Chilean security

forces are in use in Namibia. On 17th Jan. '78 the 8th Australian Premier Mr. Don Dunstan dismissed the state's Police Commissioner and disbanded the State's special branch following a scathing judicial report, attacking police undercover activities which included the holding of 40,000 index cards listing the names of people and organisations under surveillance. This information was passed to the Australian Secret Intelligence Organisation and America's Federal Bureau of Investigation, the judicial report stated.

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Irelande Libre, the French monthly dealing exclusively with Irish affairs, can be ordered through the Starry Plough or direct through Irelande Libre 2, Place de l'Abbaye, 94000 Creteil, France. Subscription rates per year are 40.00 Francs or £5. Individual copies can be purchased for 3 Francs or 38p.

## CONRADH ON H-BLOCK

THE National Executive of Conradh na Gaeilge unanimously adopted the following motion at its monthly meeting on 8.7.78:

"That the National Executive of Conradh na Gaeilge is extremely worried about the poor condition of the prisoners in H-Block, Long Kesh, and we call on the Secretary of State for the Six Counties to give those prisoners their rights in accordance with the Geneva Convention."

A copy of the motion has been sent to P. Mason, M.P., Secretary of State.

# AMSTERDAM H-BLOCK PROTEST



Police burst into the British Airways office in Amsterdam to eject protesting members of the Ierland Comité Nederland. Their protest aimed at getting publicity for the plight of H-block prisoners was successful as the dailies, radio and television covered the protest.

## "ENOUGH RUBBISH" —Corpo workers

A group of Dublin Corporation workers are protesting about conditions in most of the small depots. There are no washing facilities, no showers, no lockers and no medical boxes. In some depots the rubbish containers are almost inside the canteen. "The

canteen in our depot is too small to eat comfortably, with bicycles and junk taking up what miserable space there is. And if that's our depot — what are the rest of the depots like?" said one worker.

In a leaflet signed by John Lavery, Sean Byrne, Christy McCarthy, John Breen, Raymond Flynn, Philip O'Reilly, Paul Bradley and Tony Murphy, the workers say:

"We are the only corporation workers that have to work in the rain — we'll have to fight to put an end to that. And we want three days sick before we bring in a

note. Most of the corporation workers come out with only £50 a week, many take home less. We want a decent wage without having to work overtime to meet our needs. We want £4 a week travelling expenses for everyone.

We need organisation to win these demands. We don't think the union officials will do anything for us. Just look at the National Wage Agreement, where we got a lousy £2.50 rise after tax. We want to get together with other workers to fight back.

WE'VE HAD ENOUGH RUBBISH."



Mark Rutherford (IFL)

## HEAVY GANG IS ALIVE & WELL

The death of 15 year old Aidan White in July, ostensibly from meningitis, following his detention and interrogation in a Dublin Garda Station has been officially 'dropped' by the gardai and the 26 Co. media. This is despite allegations of garda brutality made by Aidan's mother immediately following his release and prior to his death.

As demanded in an IRSP press release this death makes an independent public inquiry all the more necessary. It also proves that the failure of the Coalition and Fianna Fail Governments to hold such an impartial public inquiry is being interpreted as carte blanche for the gardai to assault and ill-treat prisoners. Add to this the recent promotion of members and directors of the Heavy Gang and one can see that no other interpretation

is possible. Indeed it is likely that the Fianna Fail Government, civil servants and gardai authorities are prepared to turn a blind eye to such garda violence and even actively encourage it.

The results of a post mortem held by the gardai announced that no marks had been found on the body of Aidan White and that he most likely contracted meningitis before his arrest. However, the post mortem held

Anti-recruitment picket at the site of the Royal Tournament, Britain's biggest Military show on July, 15th.

approximately a week after his release is no proof that there was no ill-treatment while he was in garda custody. Besides the time factor, it is a medical fact that no two people need necessarily show the same bruising (if any) after suffering similar assaults.

### KARATE

Amid much publicity we read recently of a group of men arrested in Kanturk forest Co. Cork and of hints at their involvement in recent robberies in the Limerick area. We heard nothing of their release without charge within 48 hours nor of their treatment in the Cork Bridewell station. Led by a Det. Scanlon the men were insulted and assaulted by gardai using karate. The Heavy Gang is alive and well.



# RELEASE Ó MIANÁIN

Conradh na Gaeilge has called on the Minister for Justice to take immediate steps to ensure that Irish speakers are dealt with in Irish in court. The Conradh recalled that the Fianna Fail General Election manifesto promised that Irish speakers would be provided with such a service. On 7th July: Judge Sheehy of the Circuit Court in Leitir Ceannainn, Donegal, sentenced Pionáis Ó Mianáin to imprisonment in Mountjoy for contempt of court; — and yet his only "offence" was that he addressed the court in Irish and expected the Court to deal with him in Irish. An tUasal Ó Mianáin lives in the Donegal Gaeltacht and the civil case in question was being heard before the Circuit Court which caters for the Donegal Gaeltacht.

The Circuit Court was in session to deal with two civil actions concerning people living in the Donegal Gaeltacht. Judge Sheehy who presided required the assistance of an interpreter. He later admitted in court that the interpreter who had been sworn in (without consultation with either of the defendants or plaintiffs), was unable to deal with the case adequately.

Conradh na Gaeilge stated that this highlighted the necessity for all judges having a proficient knowledge of Irish prior to their appointment. The Conradh considers that, until such a situation exists, it is of paramount importance that the Government ensures that Irish-speaking judges are appointed to Courts which have jurisdiction over Gaeltacht areas and are also appointed to deal with cases which involve Irish speakers. There

could not have been any doubt that a knowledge of Irish would be required for the cases in Letterkenny Circuit Court today — all the documents of the cases being in Irish.

Irish-speakers are constantly being put at a serious disadvantage in the Courts by having interpreters who are frequently unable to translate the proceedings accurately imposed on them by monolingual judges.

The Government must not allow this situation to continue and the Minister for Justice must rectify it forthwith.

Conradh na Gaeilge have been organising pickets on Mountjoy Prison in solidarity with an tUasal Ó Mianáin.

Further information available from: Sean Mac Mathúna, Runai, fon 757401

# FAOI GHLAS AR SON NA TEANGA

Ins an Chúirt Chuarda i Leitir Ceannainn, Dé hAoine 7 Iúil, thug Prionsaís Ó Mianáin, Cnoc Fola, iarraidh cáisanna a thug sé in éadan Johnny Bhag Mac Aodha agus a mhac Séan i gCúirt Dhúiche an Bhuna Bhig, a thabhairt ar achomarc ós comhair na Cúirte Cuarda faoin Bhréith-eamh Sheehy. Ins an Chúirt Dhúiche d'órdáigh an Bréith-eamh Clifford na cáisanna a stoircheadh amach nuair a d'iarr an Mianánach air tabhairt leis i nGaeilge.

Ins an Chúirt Chuarda chomh luath agus a shluagh an Breitheamh Sheehy cuirteadh fear teangeir faoi mhionn Bárla. Chuir P. Ó Mianáin in éadan údair an thir teangeir agus dhúirt go raibh caipéis uilig a cháis i nGaeilge agus nach raibh caert ar bith ag an Breitheamh toiseacht i nBárla agus gur theastaigh éisteach dhifreac gan fear teangeir uaidh. Ní raibh an fear teangeir in ann an réamhphlé seo a aistriú. Dhúirt an Breitheamh nach raibh seasamh ar bith ins an Chúirt ag an gearánach — nár bhí dhúirt cáisanna a stoircheadh amach i gCúirt Dhúiche a aistriú go dtí Cúirt Chuarda, ar achomarc. D'iarr P. Ó Mianáin

ansin cáisanna sonraithe. Níor thug an fear teangeir na focla "cás sonraí" nó "cás rómhtha". An chéad chás a d'iarr Ó Mianáin ná gur sár ar Bhunreacht na hÉireann ailt 1, 8 agus 40, agus ar ailt 44 den Acht Cúirsanna Breithiúna, 1924 agus den Acht Lucht Cleachtaithe Díl (Cáilíocht) 1929. Breitheamh gan leor eolas ar an nGaeilge bheith i gcannas ar Chúirt Dhúiche. Ceannair, cúirt ina bhfuil liom-staite ina bhfuil an Ghaeilge in úsáid ghearráta. Níor shirigh leis an Mhianánach féin a chur i dtuistid don Bhréitheamh. Chuir an Breitheamh ina leith go raibh teag dáimh órdídh phléitechna agus go raibh teagairín ar bith a bhí aige a dhéanamh i gcóirt eile. Dhúirt an Mianánach nach raibh cúirt ar bith eile fá réir aige-sean nuair nach raibh caipéis uilig an díl ar fáil i nGaeilge mha. "Rules 1 of the Superior Courts, Statutory Instrument No. 72, 1962". Dhúirt an Breitheamh leis suigh nó go ngabhfaidh sé é a dísbeagadh cúirte. Lean an Mianánach air ag iarraidh ar an Breitheamh na cáisanna a shonraí. D'órdáigh an Breitheamh an Mianánach a ghabháil as dísbeagadh cúirte agus a thabhairt go Príosún Mhoineo nó go ndéanfadh sé leor ghnómh in a dhísbeagadh cúirte. Bhí sé ghabháil le h-éisteach ins an chúirt cheanna idir Tomás Ó Monacháin, An Bun Beag agus Maurice Ferry, An Bun Beag. Colm Mac Aodhain, Dlíodóir agus Brian Ó Cuiv, Abhcóid, a bhí ar shon an ghearáin; agus Dónal Mac Eileasaigh, Dlíodóir agus Eoin McGonigle, Abhcóid, ar shon an chosantóra. Dhúirt Brian Ó Cuiv nach raibh an gearánach ag iarraidh fear teangeir ach a chás go n-iarrfaidh an cosantóir fear teangeir nár bhí leis an gearánach glacadh leis an fear teangeir a bhí i bhfeith. Fosta go raibh an gearánach ag iarraidh breithimh i nGaeilge. D'aontaigh an Breitheamh nach raibh an fear teangeir ábalta go leor le téarmaí teicniúla agus téarmaí díla aistriú. D'admhaigh an Breitheamh nach raibh Gaeilge aige féin agus go raibh fear teangeir aige a fháil. Dhúirt an gearánach nach raibh aistriú ag an gearánach — nár bhí dhúirt cáisanna a stoircheadh amach i gCúirt Dhúiche a aistriú go dtí Cúirt Chuarda, ar achomarc. D'iarr P. Ó Mianáin



**MURDERED!**  
THE SHOOTING DEAD of 16 year old John Boyle of Dunloy, Co. Antrim, on July 11th last by the British Army has once again exposed the real terrorists in the 6 Counties.

John was the person who had 'tipped off' the British Army about an arms dump in the local graveyard and the next day he went back to investigate if the dump was still there. It was then that he was shot. Were it not for the fact that John was the informer, the British Army's version would have gone unquestioned by the media.

The SAS ambushers first claimed he was one of three men who had approached the graveyard; then that he had been called on to stop but had failed, and, lastly, that he had pointed a rifle at them which later proved to have a round in the breach. All these lies were exposed when it became clear who the victim was, that he was alone and that he had been shot in the back of the head, the bullet exiting through his left eye.

## MURDER ON SIGHT

This ambush is yet more proof that the 'murder on sight' order has been given by Roy Mason and the British government to the 'Security forces'. Had John Boyle been a republican

sympathiser, innocently walking through the graveyard, he would have been moved down without any media outcry. Similar assassinations have occurred in Derry City not too long ago and in other parts of the 6 Counties.

These assassinations are part of the military solution being imposed by Westminster and the Northern Ireland Office and backed by the new Fianna Fail government in the 26 Counties. This being the case it is not difficult to understand why the soldiers involved in the assassination have not been arrested and, in fact, are still on active duty. They are part of the SAS type activity. Roy Mason promised Loyalists following the last stoppage and what the IRSP have been warning the Irish people about since that time.

## A.L.J. SEEK FUNDS FOR 'SCANDALISATION' CASE

The Association for Legal Justice appeals for funds to assist in it's defence in the current proceedings instituted against the Association for alleged scandalizing of the Special Criminal Court.

This Association since it's inception has sought to have implemented the protections guaranteed in the Irish Constitution — Bunreacht na h-Éireann. The Dublin Central Branch has endeavoured in active co-operation with the Belfast Executive and the Cork Branch to have implemented the protection afforded by the European Convention on Human Rights and it was in fact the Northern Executive of this Association which provided the Irish Government with most of the evidence for the Irish case against the British Government at Strasbourg.

We further seek to propagate adherence to the concept of the Rule of Law with it's inbuilt protections and respect for the rights of the individual.

We also believe that the right to freedom of expression is a basic right

in any free democratic society and the denial of this right is a cause for anxiety as it is a distinct feature of repressive regimes.

We know that our concern for the above matters is shared by many people and groups, including journalists, trade unionists and human rights organisations.

We ask our support from all those who share our aspirations. Subscriptions, however small, will be acknowledged and should be sent to the address below, or c/o Bank of Ireland, 43, Lr. Drumcondra Rd., D.9.

Yours faithfully,  
Michael Traynor,  
Chairman,  
Association for Legal Justice  
Dublin Central Branch,  
11 Sth. Frederick St.,  
Dublin 2.

Those speculators will not shrink back for anything as long as they get what they want. They will spoil your country as they have done in Spain as well as in their own country: Erecting big buildings where they shouldn't, spoiling the Beachfront and destroying fish and game grounds. The Irish people should be alert, and look after their heritage, which they have kept and protected for such a long time. They should be aware of the danger of letting those speculators before it is too late.

They do not intend to become Irish citizens, who are bound to pay income tax etc. etc., but they avoid paying income taxes, through the gaps in the law, which give them the facilities even though they are living full time in Ireland and possess a house in Holland.

It is essential for the Irish people to take this seriously. It is their affair.

Yours sincerely,  
Charles Hettiga  
Naturalist—Ecologist  
Bolstein 340  
1081 EE Amsterdam—HOLLAND.

## DUTCH SPECULATORS

I read in the Telegraaf, a Dutch newspaper, of the 8.7.78, that many Dutch citizens, who are living in Ireland, are buying big parts of our beautiful country, for the purpose of speculation and building activities.

I, as a Dutchman, am agitated, why the proud Irish people should give those money-hungry wolves the opportunity to infiltrate the Irish community.

# INSIDE THE CURRAGH



\*A view of the inside of the Curragh Military Detention Centre, smuggled out to the Starry Plough.

The existence of the Curragh Military Detention Prison is once again proof that temporary repressive measures invariably tend to become permanent. The use of the Curragh was legalised for ordinary prisoners following the Mountjoy riots of 1972, but only for a period of two years. However, it was extended for a further three years in 1974 and yet another three in 1977. Its use was to "hold 34 dangerous subversive prisoners under high security" but today it holds only four political prisoners.

The other prisoners there are social criminals and it appears that their transfer there is being used merely to justify the continued use of the prison. There have also been claims that prisoners with psychiatric problems are being dumped in the Curragh.

Even the Prison Visiting Committees have complained about the Curragh in their annual reports (which have been discreetly hidden from the public, contrary to Prison Rules). The Committee has complained at the detention of non-political prisoners, the

total lack of all work and training facilities and that as there are no proper treatment facilities for prisoners with psychiatric problems that no such prisoners should be held there.

Recently a member of the Prisoners Rights Organisation had to take a High Court Action to be allowed to take notes of the contents of the annual reports of the Visiting Committees, as the Curragh Prison authorities had illegally obstructed and prevented him from doing so.

## LETTERS

### DISCRIMINATION

We would like to bring to your notice the case of Ms. Delores Cullen, Ins. No. 1234798 of 93 Harmonstown Rd., Artane, Dublin 5.

Ms. Cullen worked for Cadburys Chivers of Malahide Rd., Dublin for 7½ years. She went out sick due to pregnancy (last Nov. 1977) and her cards were sent to her while she was sick. She applied to the labour exchange and was told she was unavailable for work and therefore not entitled to benefit. She appealed and the decision of the deciding officer was upheld. She came to us on the 17th May. We sought a fresh claim for her on Friday 21st. I witnessed Ms. Cullen having to go through a very discriminatory form of questioning before she was allowed to sign on.

She was asked questions like who do you live with, who will look after the children. Will you pay the person who looks after the children? How long can you work per day? All this was put down on form entitled "Supplementary to U.V.I.W.". This form only applies to married women regardless of their work record.

We would like to point out that there is an anti-discriminatory Act on the statute books, legally passed by both houses and signed by the responsible Minister. We think this form

Yours faithfully,  
Unemployed Workers Association,  
John Clarke, Secretary



# DUBLIN ICRA MEETING

At a recent ICRA meeting on H-Block in the Central Hotel, Dublin, the question of political status/POW status was discussed among an audience which in the main was representative of the Irish Left and anti-imperialist groupings including the Belfast RAC.

The purpose of the meeting as stated by ICRA was to 'involve the attendance in discussion of the whole question of H-Block'. Evelyn Reynolds and Joe Stagg spoke briefly on the plight of the Blanket Men. Una O'Higgins-O'Malley also spoke from the platform. The general theme of the speeches were to the effect that Republican, Socialist and Loyalist prisoners should get political status. Those speaking from the floor were asked to speak in an individual capacity and not as representatives of any political organisation. The platform speakers stressed the point that Loyalists should be included in the demand for prisoner of war status.

The main discussion of the meeting centred on the following: should Loyalists be grouped with the Provisional, Republican and IRSP prisoners in the demand for Prisoner of War status and the future perspective of the H-Block campaign. The platform suggested that the campaign should be waged on the 'humanitarian' aspects of H-Block.

In discussing these issues confusion on the question of loyalism emerged, a confusion which has bedevilled Irish Republicans and Socialists since the last century.

## CONTRASTING PRISONERS' CAMPAIGNS

Sean Flynn, Mary Reid and Mick Plunkett of the IRSP Ard Comhairle were the first speakers from the floor. Mick Plunkett contrasted the present prisoners campaign with the prisoners protests in the 20's, 40's and 50's and in the last century. He pointed out that previously the main demands were for the release of Republicans. These demands received widespread support and were organised after the Republican Movement was militarily and politically defeated, as in the case of the last Border campaign. H-Block is different in that national liberation

forces are not defeated, the war in the North goes on, and there is no sign of a British victory. The protracted nature of the present struggle led to the removal of political status and the setting up of the H-Blocks. This is the reason why liberals in this country have not come out on the H-Block issue. He opposed the idea of adopting a purely humanitarian perspective in the H-Block campaign, as this would lead to a complete depoliticisation of the H-Block issue, which was and is the aim of Westminster.

The H-Block issue must be fought on both political and humanitarian grounds and the platform's insistence that those supporting the anti-imperialist demands must also support the Loyalist claim for POW status was opposed as premature, naive and potentially divisive. Loyalism is pro-imperialism and the Loyalists objectively act as the agents of British control. In the main, the Loyalist prisoners are sentenced for purely sectarian actions against the Catholic/Nationalist population. The Loyalist assassination campaigns are directly and indirectly initiated by the British Army. To suggest that they are fighting a just war is to give credence to Britain's claims that her role in the 6 Cos. is to prevent tribal warfare.

The thrust of the anti-imperialist military campaign in the North is directed against the British occupation forces i.e. British Army, UDR, RUC and not against the Protestant population. The ideology of Loyalism must be analysed in a realistic manner. At this stage to lump Loyalist and anti-imperialist prisoners together in the demand for POW status will prevent a proper analysis of the way forward on H-Block and will make the prisoners issue apolitical. There are no short cuts to obtaining mass support for the Blanket Men. All prisoners should receive humane treatment; anti-imperialist prisoners should rightfully have POW status. In the context of a British military and political withdrawal a general amnesty should be granted to all those imprisoned for activities related to the present conflict.

## SUPPORT IMPRISONED IRSP MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS.

In the course of their political activities many IRSP members and supporters are harassed and some incarcerated. The IRSP members and supporters in political prisons in the Six and Twenty Six Counties and funds are urgently need to cater for their welfare and that of

their immediate dependents.

Send donations and orders to the Craft Department, C/o IRSP, 34, Upper Gardiner Street, Dublin 1. All cheques etc., should be crossed.

Another method of supporting them is by purchasing prisoners' crafts.

Leather Handbags £25  
Hand-carved Harps £15  
Leather Purses £4  
Leather Wallets £4.

# SUPPORT THE MARCH COALISLAND TO DUNGANNON

Mass demo, 10th Anniversary of the first Civil Rights March from Coalisland to Dungannon, 27th August 1978.

SPEAKERS FROM: PROVISIONAL SINN FEIN, IRSP, RAC AND OTHERS



Mick Plunkett, General Secretary IRSP, addresses the meeting.

Sean Flynn spoke of the activities of Loyalists, from the massive burning out of Catholic families in 1969, to the sectarian assassination campaigns which was aimed at terrorising the Catholic population. Their role has always been supportive of Britain.

## POW STATUS IS A POLITICAL DEMAND

Mary Reid stated that the ICRA initiative in organising the meeting had allowed some of the confusion on the question of H-Block to be aired, and provided an opportunity for asking the question as to why the campaign on behalf of the Blanket Men had received such little support? The men in H-Block were in the front line of struggle and the tragedy of their situation is that they are hostages in the hands of the British Government. The hunger strike in Crumlin Road in 1972 succeeded in its objective because simultaneously the campaign was being waged on the streets, with heavy casualties for the British Army.

The platform had asked people to refrain from making political contributions and yet the demand of POW status was a very political demand. By their own definition the Loyalists could not be included in our political demand since they were arguing that in the war between Republicans and the British Army, they were taking action against Republicans in defence of their historical allegiance to Britain. The Loyalists have been sold the language of Conor Cruise O'Brien and they are now openly speaking themselves as colonists. To support the demand of

POW status for Loyalists was to give recognition to the idea that there are two nations in Ireland, a Catholic and a Protestant nation, and to allow the British Government to settle the prisoners issue as an honest broker outside the "conflict".

The H-Block issue was causing liberals a dilemma of conscience. Liberals were forced to support the Blanket Men and demand humane conditions for them, but they were unwilling to support the demand for POW status. Why had the Irish Council for Civil Liberties not made a statement on behalf of the men? These people were hypocrites, if they professed to care about human rights and yet were prepared to remain silent when the conditions of H-Block were being imposed on men whose anti-imperialism was the sole cause of their imprisonment. The 'liberals dilemma' had its overflow in the 26 Cos. too. When and were did the liberals oppose the Special Criminal Court? It was precisely this silence from that respectable body of public opinion that allows such an institution as the Special Court to grow strong and strangle human rights in our country. If the liberals genuinely do care about the humanitarian aspect of H-Block, then they must make their voices felt, they must pressurise both the British and Irish Governments, regardless of the fact that they disagree with the politics of the Blanket Men.

## IRSP ABSTAINS

After the speakers from the floor, the platform proposed a motion which calling for Political Status included Loyalists. At this IRSP members

attempted to put an amendment calling for political status for Republican and Socialist prisoners but this was not allowed. Mick Plunkett stated that as members of the IRSP, those present could not vote for or against the motion, as it would misrepresent IRSP policy. This did not imply a lack of support for those IRSP/Provisional Republicans on the blanket but the ICRA motion needed further debate as many people did not realise the full implications of the resolution. The confusion over the resolution and loyalism was illustrated by the fact that members of some organisations present at the meeting voted both ways on the motion.

All in all the ICRA meeting was healthy in that it started serious debate on crucial political issues. This must be continued, but ICRA must be asked to bear in mind that those attending the meeting were not previously informed of the resolution, and that therefore many people were forced to be hasty in their decision making. The H-Block issue is one on which all anti-imperialists can and must unite. It would be tragic if the most immediate political campaign stemming directly from the war in this country was allowed to become fragmented and divisive, because in our haste to support those men who are suffering, we make short-sighted decisions which ultimately will neither win the H-Block campaign nor further the cause of national liberation.

# Support Green Cross

## I.R.S.P. POWS ON THE BLANKET H BLOCK

Brian Kelly, White Rock	10 years		H4
Justin Livingstone, Portadown	8 years		H3
Tommy McGinn, Ardara	4 years	D wing	H5
John Downey, Turf Lodge	4 years		H3
P. Smith, Turf Lodge	12 years		H4
Rab Collins, Turf Lodge	12 years		H3
Chris McArdle, Turf Lodge	10 years		H3
Michael Ferguson, A/town	12 years	D wing	H5
Billy Gorman, New Lodge	2 years		
Brendan McManus, Ballymurphy	2 years		H3
Kevin Lynch, Dungiven	10 years		H3
Stanly Derry			
Seamus Mc Reynolds, Dungiven	6 years		H4
Harry Mullan, Dungiven	10 years		H3
Desmond Walsley, Derry	14 years		
Liam McCloskey, Dungiven	10 years		H3
John Valentine, Monaghan	3 years		
Mickie Devine, Derry	12 years		
Paul Duddy, Derry	3 years		
John Nixon, Armagh	14 years	A/Wing	H5
Malachy Trainor, Armagh	10 years		
J.C. Brady, Derry	6 years	A/Wing	H5
Tony O'Hara, Derry	5 years	D/Wing	H5
J. Cassidy, Derry	12 years		
Peter O'Neill, Armagh	6 years		H3
James O'Neill, Armagh	10 years	A/Wing	H5

Patrick Maxwell, on the blanket, Crumlin Road (8 Weeks)



VOL 2 NO. 8 AUGUST 1978  
LUNASA 1978 BRITAIN 12p

THE  
**STARRY  
PLOUGH**

An Camchéachta  
THE  
**IRSP  
PAPER**

## PARTIAL VICTORY IN H-BLOCK

H-Block Political Prisoners have won a partial victory following their no-visits-protest in July as the degrading strip searches, which sparked the protest, have ended. On July 14th 4 political prisoners in H3 Block refused to submit to degrading strip searches on their way to visits. All lost their visits. On July 19th all

IRSP political prisoners in H3 refused to be strip searched and they in turn lost all their visits. Then the IRSP prisoners escalated the protest by refusing to hand back dinner plates. The Prison Authorities retaliated by refusing the prisoners any food. Only the Irish News carried the story sometime later. While

the humiliating and degrading treatment known as strip searching ended prior to Archbishop O'Fiaich's visit it is not clear if the strip searching and refusal of food to protesting prisoners will re-commence now that the visit is over.

■ ■

## VICTIMISATION IN BELFAST MARKETS

On Friday July 7th Gerry Fitt said in the British House of Commons that he would support any action by the 'Security' forces that would remove so-called squatters who are supposed to be holding up redevelopment projects. That same day it was on the front page of the Belfast Telegraph and Scene Around Six that William Norney and his wife were delaying the building of 52 houses by refusing to leave Keegan Street in the Markets area of Belfast. The Norneys had bitter experience of the Brit propaganda machine when Leo, William's brother,

was shot dead in Turf Lodge two years ago.

Marie Norney belongs to the Moylans who have lived in the Markets for generations and her relatives still live in the Markets. She has every entitlement to a house in the redevelopment scheme. There are numerous cases of people who squatted in houses earmarked for demolition being rehoused. She has also lived in Keegan St. for three years and has had a rent book from the Housing Executive.

To mount a black propaganda campaign about the family was unfeeling cruelty

and has now been crowned with tragedy because of the death of their infant. The only possible recompense for their suffering is to rehouse them. The Markets cumann IRSP call on all the people to support this family and ensure that no eviction will take place. It was Orange fascist pogroms, backed by the RUC, which caused the housing problem in the first place. To make a scapegoat of a single family is typical of the politics of the British overlords and their collaborator Fitt.

■ ■

### 4 PROVINCE SOLUTION NON STARTER

In a letter to the Irish Times Christine Ni Elias of Sinn Féin associates the SDLP with Messrs. Lynch and Fitzgerald as all vaguely hinting at some sort of federal arrangement, which she suspects would be on a six county-twenty six county basis. There is an important omission in this list - the Irish Independence Party, whose chairman Fergus McAteer has repeatedly called for an independent six county 'Ulster' - which, as everyone now knows is an essential 'interim step' in the direction of a federal Ireland. The interim period, according to 'The Senator' in the Sunday World being envisaged as 50 to 100 years!

#### NON STARTER

If the six/twenty six arrangement is a non-starter, the four-province nine-county Ulster arrangement is even less credible. The remaining three

provinces have never shown the slightest inclination to autonomy. And those in the North East who want to maintain the 'Protestant heritage' (such as Desmond Boal) will insist on doing so on a six county basis - what we have we hold. In any final negotiations on a constitutional settlement, no-one is going to be able to hold out for a nine county Ulster, against the six county Ulster, against the Loyalists, F.F. F.G. S.D.L.P. L.I.P. not to speak of Callaghan and Carter.

There is nothing socialist about federalism and community politics, which go together. They are the most strongly found in the British Liberal Party. In fact there is no economic thinking behind the 'Community of self-governing communities' which is what is usually meant by the Eire Nua proposals (1972). The original populist Eire Nua economic programme of 1971 has not only faded into the background of Kevin

Street thinking, but there is even talk about it needing 'drastic revision' and the need for a programme which fits better with the community politics approach.

### NATIONAL OPPRESSION

The federal approach is also seriously lacking in anti-imperialist content. It adopts a 'community', 'identity' approach, and ignores the basic fact that loyalism is a form of national oppression, a continuation of the British legacy of colonial rule. Favouring loyalism by re-enforcing the British imposed vision of our country, is intensifying the division among Irishmen by which Britain has enslaved us all. What are 'the many fears of Ulster Protestants' except that they will lose their supremacist position. But this was only possible because it was part of British imperialism supported by Westminster.

Federalism will continue to prevent Irishmen and women coming together as equal citizens to control their own wealth and to work out their own destiny.

■ ■

### A SPECIAL PLEA TO OUR READERS . . .

The IRSP are escalating their campaign for political status for Irish political prisoners and against the horrific conditions of incarceration in Europe's only Concentration Camp, the H Blocks of Long Kesh. 20,000 handbills have been printed as well as 3,000 posters. IRSP members, who have already held and/or supported meetings in Cos. Wicklow, Clare, Derry, Antrim, Armagh and Dublin, will be holding more meetings through the Summer in as many areas as possible. You can help. Inform Yourself. Spread the news, distribute our leaflets, put up our posters; raise the issue in your Trade Union, Tenants Association etc. Send your orders for leaflets and posters to 34 Upr. Gardiner St. Dublin 1, without delay.

A Newtownabbey Co. Antrim court recently gave a typically unbiased verdict in the 'tradition of 6 Co. Justice. Resident Magistrate James Tweed ordered that £6.14 collected 'illegally' by members of the Prisoners Aid Group for prisoners' dependents be handed over to the R.U.C. Benevolent Fund.

The IRSP is organised on a 32 County basis with the aim of establishing a 32 County Democratic Socialist Republic with the working class in control of the means of production, distribution and exchange.

(Block Letters Please)

Ainm (Name): .....

Seoladh (Address): .....

Tel. No.: .....

**JOIN  
the  
IRSP**

ANTRIM, FERMANAGH, DOWN, TYRONE & ARMAGH: National Head Office, 34 Upr. Gardiner Street Dublin 1. Tel: 721175.

CARLOW: Michael Aherne, 7 Royal Oak Rd., Mhuine Bheag or Noel Doyle, 10 St. Olivers Drive, Rathoe, Tullow.

CORK: Jack Lynch, 21 Earlwood Estate, Cork City

DUBLIN: IRSP Head Office, 34 Upr. Gardiner St. Dublin 1. Tel. 721175

DERRY: IRSP, Connolly House, 8 Chamberlain Street, Derry City.

CLARE: Bridie Makowski, 16 Tradere Court, Shannon, or Anne Koneally, 26 Corravorrin Green, Ennis.

LIMERICK: John Gilligan, 143 O'Malley Park

TIPPERARY: Tony Quinn, 4 Thomond Place, Nenagh.

WICKLOW: Maeliosa Costello, 5 New Cornelscourt, Dublin Rd.,

### IRSP BOOKSHOP OPENED IN DERRY



Nora Connolly O'Brien

## S.A.S. DIRECTED FROM DERRY

By  
Our Derry Correspondant

Dr. Nora Connolly O'Brien was warmly received when she opened the Irish Republican Socialist Party Head Office in Derry city on July 8th which will be known as Connolly House.

Dr. O'Brien, who cut a ribbon to officially open 'the bookshop', said that she first visited Derry with her father in 1910 and that they visited Derry dockers at work and walked over parts of the city's historic walls. She spoke of Connolly's deep love for the working people, his socialist and republican philosophy, and of the many trials which their family faced because of his sincere and dedicated commitment to creating a workers' republic. The most emotional part of her talk, concerned the last few hours at Connolly's bedside, when both she and her mother were informed of his impending execution at dawn next day. She said that her mother was gravely upset but that her father had never expected any other fate. Calling Nora to his side he embraced her and said in a low clear voice, 'do not be too pessimistic Nora, in the end we will win through, and it will only be a short time before we'll rise again.'

The IRSP in Derry presented her with James Plunkett's latest book, 'Farewell Companions' and she in turn presented them with a framed picture of her executed father.

Dr. O'Brien has accepted an invitation to be the guest of the IRSP in the city on her return for a week later this summer.

In his address to invited representatives of local political and community groupings, the Derry I.R.S.P. Comhairle Ceannairde secretary said that all present were honoured by the fact that the daughter of James Connolly had made the long journey to share the occasion with them, particularly bearing in mind that Dr. O'Brien was advanced in years. He continued by saying, 'Today we open the first section of Connolly House, 'The Bookshop' which is appropriate bearing in mind the fact that James Connolly placed great emphasis in not merely reading, but writing as well as a means of combating imperialism and capitalism and winning working people to the cause of socialism.'

An advice centre is to be opened in Connolly House in a few weeks time. There is a lecture hall and a meeting room on the first floor and on the second floor where the bookshop is situated there is a residential accommodation and a print shop.

The hours of opening of Connolly House are 10am to 5pm Monday to Saturday.

### COMMEMORATE

## Roger Casement

MURLOUGH BAY  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 6,

Speakers include Miriam Daly, IRSP