

# IRISH FREEDOM

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10P

## JOIN SINN FEIN

Details Inside

### **POBLACHT NA H EIREANN, THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE IRISH REPUBLIC TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.**

**IRISHMEN AND IRISHWOMEN:** In the name of God and of the dead generations from which she receives her old tradition of nationhood, Ireland, through us, summons her children to her flag and strikes for her freedom.

Having organised and trained her manhood through her secret revolutionary organisation, the Irish Republican Brotherhood, and through her open military organisations, the Irish Volunteers and the Irish Citizen Army, having patiently perfected her discipline, having resolutely waited for the right moment to reveal itself, she now seizes that moment, and, supported by her exiled children in America and by gallant allies in Europe, but relying in the first on her own strength, she strikes in full confidence of victory.

We declare the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland, and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies, to be sovereign and indefeasible. The long usurpation of that right by a foreign people and government has not extinguished the right, nor can it ever be extinguished except by the destruction of the Irish people. In every generation the Irish people have asserted their right to national freedom and sovereignty: six times during the past three hundred years they have asserted it in arms. Standing on that fundamental right and again asserting it in arms in the face of the world, we hereby proclaim the Irish Republic as a Sovereign Independent State, and we pledge our lives and the lives of our comrades-in-arms to the cause of its freedom, of its welfare, and of its exaltation among the nations.

The Irish Republic is entitled to, and hereby claims, the allegiance of every Irishman and Irishwoman. The Republic guarantees religious and civil liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities to all its citizens, and declares 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, and oblivious of the differences carefully fostered by an alien government, which have divided a minority from the majority in the past.

Until our arms have brought the opportune moment for the establishment of a permanent National Government, representative of the whole people of Ireland and elected by the suffrages of all her men and women, the Provisional Government, hereby constituted, will administer the civil and military affairs of the Republic in trust for the people.

We place the cause of the Irish Republic under the protection of the Most High God, Whose blessing we invoke upon our arms, and we pray that no one who serves that cause will dishonour it by cowardice, inhumanity, or rapine. In this supreme hour the Irish nation must, by its valour and discipline and by the readiness of its children, to sacrifice themselves for the common good, prove itself worthy of the august destiny to which it is called.

Signed on Behalf of the Provisional Government,

THOMAS J. CLARKE,

SEAN Mac DIARMADA,

THOMAS MacDONAGH,

P. H. PEARSE,

EAMONN CEANNT,

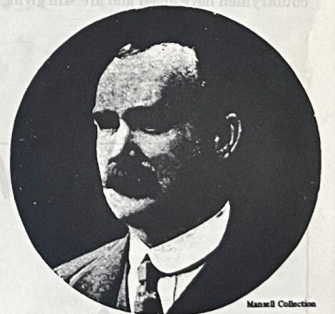
JAMES CONNOLLY,

JOSEPH PLUNKETT.



National Library of Ireland

*Padraig Pearse. As Director of Organization of the Irish Volunteers and a member of both the Supreme Council and the Military Council of the I.R.B., Pearse was a key man in the Rising. As a link between these two bodies, he was perhaps the natural choice as military Commander-in-Chief. An inspired teacher and a fine poet, Pearse was the "soul" of the Rising. He was executed on May 3rd, 1916.*



Mansell Collection

*James Connolly, Irish socialist leader and Commandant of the Irish Citizen Army. Connolly was not a member of the I.R.B. until January 1916. He believed in insurrection and expressed his feelings openly in his newspaper. The Military Council feared he might start an insurrection on his own, so they finally let him into their secrets and made him a member of the I.R.B. and the Military Council. With Pearse, Connolly led the defence of the G.P.O. during Easter Week. He was executed on May 12th, 1916.*

*Handwritten signatures and notes in the bottom left corner, including names like 'P. H. Pearse' and 'James Connolly'.*

## IRISH FREEDOM

An  
Saoirse na  
h'Eireann.

Fianna Fail Mandate Dissolves

# LYNCH'S GAMBLE FAILS

### EDITORIAL

We thought it appropriate that this, the first issue of *Irish Freedom* should appear at a time when we are commemorating the Easter Rising of 1916, for it is from that period that the modern concept of Irish Republicanism stems and this issue is by way of being dedicated to the memory of those who gave their lives during that week in Dublin.

*Irish Freedom* is in no way meant to supplant those two great Republican newspapers *An Phoblacht* and *Republican News*, but rather to supplement them by adding a more localised dimension to the constant struggle to break through the massive paper wall of lies and calumny built by the British propaganda machine and to bring to the Irish people here a glimpse of the true stage of affairs in our homeland.

We feel that another advantage of a local paper is that being emigrants ourselves, we are in a better position to understand and combat the problems facing us all living here in an alien and sometimes hostile environment, subject to constant and terrific pressures designed to wean us from the principles of Irish republicanism, principles for which so many of our countrymen have given and are still giving their lives.

It is more than possibly true to say that just about every-one must have been surprised by the results of the election in Eire on February 28th. After the massive ego campaign that Jack Lynch ran and despite the many ways in which he tried to erase all his political opponents, even before all the results were in it became obvious that Jack's gamble was not going to pay off, and that this time he had well and truly overreached himself.

Which is surprising really, when you think of all the pre-election promises that he made to abolish rates and up the dole. When it is financially worked out, it was in fact a large scale blackmail campaign under which every household would have got £100 extra per year. And as for the dole, we suggest that Jack or any other government would be better employed in bringing down the unemployment. But now it is more than obvious that the people saw well and truly through these ruses and did the obvious.

Jack's attempt to keep the Six Counties out of the election didn't really work either and it is more than likely that his completely negative, boot-licking attitude to the British had more than a little to do with his defeat. It is a well known fact that the Irish have long memories and there is still alot of bad feeling in the South about the "we shall not stand idly by" speech and the lack of initiative that followed it.

What must have surprised Jack most of all is that in such a short space of time his opponents were able to mount enough of a fight to defeat him. Regard the various methods he used to try to stop this. Calling the election so suddenly and at such short notice. Fianna Fail were obviously ready for this and hoped to catch the opposition off their guard. The callous and degrading attempt to deny the vote to the 140,000 young people who are now entitled to vote

as a result of the referendum held last year. And also the continual harrasment, arrest and detention of Republicans.

The complete lack of success suffered by the National Liberation Front and Aontacht Eireann can be seen in no way to be a reflection on the lack of support there is supposed to be for the Provos. The fact that the Provos did not contest the election is easily understandable when you consider the facts that their head office is closed and under police "protection" their President is in prison and most of their other leaders are in hiding. That can hardly be said to be a state in which to fight a general election. But one cannot afford to underestimate the Provos. Jack did that and it didn't get him far. Even the political experts and commentators have admitted that had the Provos stood they would probably have got about 15% of the total vote and would more than likely have captured four or five seats. In fact it was suggested that Rory O'Brady should stand against Jack himself. That would have been a more than interesting result.

The main fact that has emerged from Lynch's defeat is that despite all his boasting and emotion, Fianna Fail never had a mandate from the Irish people to victimise Republicans and to bring in the Amendment's Act. From that aspect, his defeat was a slamming indictment of his policies. The humiliating of two of his ministers, Messrs Hillery and Lenihan must really be stuck in his throat. More's the pity that O'Malley wasn't defeated.

So the next few months should prove to be very interesting. What will be really worth watching is how Cosgrave deals with the infamous White Paper. Of one thing we would warn Cosgrave and his henchmen—don't underestimate the Provos. They destroyed Fianna Fail. . . . .and if you don't play the game they can do the same for you.

## REMEMBER THE PRISONERS' FAMILIES

### SUPPORT

# An Cumann Cabhrach

## PRISONERS' DEPENDANTS FUND

Contributions to-  
LIAM McDONNELL, 40 LACHETT ROAD, LONDON E. 18

# U.S. Irish Oppose Nixon's Support to Britain

By Fred Burns O'Brien

[The following article is reprinted from the March 3 issue of *The Irish People*, the weekly paper of Irish Northern Aid, the American support group of the Provisional Republican movement.]

It appears that the allies of World War II are once again collaborating, this time to defeat the Irish menace in Northern Ireland. There, a handful of Irish Freedom-Fighters have kept the British Army at bay for the last three years. Certainly, the British Army could root out most opposition in the North, but to do so they would have to contemplate genocide as an end solution. With the IRA and UDA being peoples armies, they are deep-rooted within the respective communities, and to effect elimination of these associations whole communities would have to be leveled with the inevitable mass slaughter of the populace.

There is a distinct possibility that if matters further deteriorate in the interpretation of the British Government, they might feel compelled to contemplate the detestable action of massive raids into rebel strongholds of both communities. This would be similar to the raids of "Operation Motorman" done in Derry during the summer of 1972. This military foray was not contested by the Irish people. The majority of the inhabitants of "Loyalist" and "Nationalist" neighborhoods talk of severing the umbilical cord of Britain's stillborn child. Former loyalists, now separatists, call for an independent Ulster with equitable autonomy for all citizens within a new governmental structure. The nationalists would prefer to unify the whole island, but separation might be a vehicle towards their final goal of reunification. There is at the least a point for compromise among the Irish people rather than with a foreign hand offering unwanted guidance.

With the long Vietnam conflict now appearing to have come to its climax with the peace agreement and exchange of prisoners, American military facilities, rather than lie entirely dormant, are now contributing to the British war effort against the self-determination of the Irish people. It has been revealed that British troops were indeed being trained at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, thereby involving the tax dollars of United States citizens, and personnel of the U.S. Armed Forces in Britain's Irish War. After ten years of war in Southeast Asia, it is terrifying to see the U.S. involve itself in any way in another very similar conflict.

There were many tactics of guerrilla warfare utilized by U.S. Forces that are now being passed along to British Soldiers for employment against the Irish enemy. It is image-shattering to see the country in which you reside suddenly contributing to a war against your own people. They only seek the same freedom and self-determination sought in prior years by the United States under the same principles and against the same enemy.

Why should such goals be permissible for Americans and not for other peoples? The Irish living in America should be enraged to think for a moment that British troops are being trained in the United States for duty against the Irish people. The eight-hundred soldiers in the U.S. have just returned from a tour of duty in "Ulster" to acquire more vicious tactics to facilitate their assignment in Ireland.

The question must be posed—What have the Irish in Ireland or in America ever done to deserve United States involvement in a war on Irish citizens? Not to dwarf the achievement of any other American Ethnic Group, but it can easily and truthfully be stated that no people have contributed more than the Irish to the United States of America. The Irish people have proved to be extremely loyal Americans and have proved this in times of national crisis; yet the U.S. now turns on the Irish to aid her enemy. We Irish can certainly respect U.S. neutrality in Ireland, but we cannot understand U.S. complicity in any British actions against our people.

The American people could never offer favor to any nation that would quash another's freedom, so it must be assumed that the proper culprit in this turn of events is not the American people, but instead the administration of Richard Nixon. There have been a series of events over the past few years that would verify the fact of Mr. Nixon's outright support of Britain, which would be consistent with British troops now being trained on U.S. soil. Those events are not put forth for consumption.

In the first instance, Richard Nixon, like most national leaders, but more than most, is a massive egotist whose aims serve to illuminate his, rather than the country's, fame. Mr. Nixon's ego suffered a severe blow in October 1970 on a trip to Ireland, where he assumed he would receive the same adulation accorded John F. Kennedy in a similar "sentimental journey." The Irish people were not deceived by Mr. Nixon's political motives to gain Irish votes back home, however; they extended a cold, polite greeting to him as the leader of a friendly nation. The U.S. Ambassador to Ireland, Mr. Moore, was embarrassed that he could not set up the proper enthusiasm for Mr. Nixon. In the Spring of 1971, when large-scale demonstrations were being held around the world against U.S. involvement in Indochina, a group of 12 people gathered to demonstrate in front of the U.S. Embassy in Dublin. The demonstrators burnt an American Flag as an act of protest, hardly an uncommon scene over the last ten years. Mr. Moore, remembering the cold reception given his leader by the Irish people, demanded that Irish authorities fully prosecute these criminals and afford them the maximum punishment. Mr. Moore made fools of the American and Irish peoples as well as the respective governments of each, with his childish conduct.

In September of 1971, Mr. Joe Cahill, an alleged member of the IRA, sought to present his political views to the American people, but he was denied entry by U.S. authorities at the request of the British Government, who evidently feared the truth being made public. When British Soldiers murdered thirteen innocent civilians in Derry, Mr. Nixon could not be moved, an assurance to Britain that he would not offer any detrimental comments which might affect their efforts in the North. It was at this time that Mr. Nixon stated flatly that the United States is completely neutral with regard to Northern Ireland.

Shortly after Mr. Nixon's statement on U.S. neutrality, a Central Intelligence Agent was exposed by Irish citizens in the Spring of 1972. The man was too inquisitive about IRA operations. He had been posing as

a writer, according to the Irish papers, but his purpose was to infiltrate the ranks of Irish Freedom-Fighters to gain any Americans' names who might have been contributing to the cause of Irish Freedom. It can be assumed that this was a portion of Mr. Nixon's policy of neutrality toward events in Ireland.

The Department of Justice of the United States is harassing Irish-Americans doing charitable works for Ireland, assuming that all Irish-Americans are running guns to the rebels. Five Irishmen are being held in Texas as a result of a purge of Irish people in the United States. In a corollary event, the United States and Britain entered into an extradition treaty allowing U.S. citizens to be extradited to Britain to stand trial for what the British define as crimes against the British Government.

Prior to their invasion of the Minority areas of Derry, the British Government informed Mr. Nixon of their intended plans, obviously desiring the stamp of approval for their actions. They would have undoubtedly thought twice about their objectives if the American President had any reservations. If the Irish Freedom-Fighters had offered any resistance, there would have been mass civilian slaughter with the contrived approval of the American President. In a request for NATO troops to perform in these excursions against the Irish people, Britain sought to remove three Regiments for service in the North from their NATO commitment. Knowing these troops would have to be replaced, and with growing furor in the United States over present European troop assignments, the decision for Britain's request was deferred to President Nixon. The President gave his consent, placing a further burden on American taxpayers due to a rise in NATO commitments.

These events show a clear pattern of approval by Mr. Nixon for the policies of Britain. It is heartbreaking for an Irish-American to have to live with the fact that his or her President is conspiring to support a war machine that slaughters their people. British soldiers are not gentle or humane as the British Information Service would have the world believe. As an eyewitness to the imposition of internment without trial on August 9, 1971, it can be stated with clarity that British soldiers do not aim their bullets at only gunmen, as they claim, but instead their bullets tend to be disseminated indiscriminately, as this witness observed.

Now with the United States offer to train British Soldiers confirmed, denials from worried sources start pouring forth, which are just not acceptable. The British Defense Ministry said British Marines are being trained in the U.S. under a NATO exchange program. As was shown previously, NATO is fully cooperating with Britain to perpetrate her war in Ireland. A NATO exchange program connotes a definite connection with the situation in Northern Ireland.

What can Irish-Americans do to bring an end to U.S. involvement in British war efforts? They can write to their representatives in Congress demanding not just an explanation from the administration, which will be totally inadequate, but insisting that U.S. contributions to Britain's efforts against the Irish terminate immediately. Of course, Mr. Nixon might want to comment on the matters reported in this article, but it is doubtful he could clarify them. No American President has ever done so much to prevent the final attainment of Irish Freedom than Mr. Richard Nixon. □

Intercontinental Press

## BELFAST TEN DEFENCE COMMITTEE

BELFAST TEN DEFENCE COMMITTEE

88, Roslyn Road, London N.15.

A committee has been set up to help defend the ten people charged in connection with the recent bomb explosions in London. It is in urgent need of support. It calls on all those willing to defend democratic rights, and who are opposed to the continued repression of Irish militants, to assist it in launching a national campaign to highlight the way in which the Belfast Ten have been treated since their arrest, and to demand their unconditional release.

The committee has been in touch with the families and associates of the Ten, and with their agreement has assumed responsibility for the welfare of the prisoners — insofar as the prison authorities are willing to have any provision for their welfare made.

The following facts illustrate the general attitude of the police and prison authorities to date.

\*In defiance of regulations and general practice, the ten were denied access to solicitors and relatives who tried to visit them between March 8th, the day of their arrest, and March 12th.

\*In defiance of regulations and "normal standards of decency" nine of the ten were kept completely unclothed in Ealing Police Station for the same period.

\*In clear breach of the "legal-rights of the citizen" the finger-prints of the ten were taken forcibly without

any warrant being produced or sought.

\*Against all precedent, the three girls, Dolores and Marion Price and Roisin McNamee, are being held in a male prison, Brixton.

\*The visiting rights accorded all remand prisoners have been denied the Ten. Most visitors are simply not admitted. Their Belfast solicitor, Mr. Patrick McGrory, has not been allowed to see them.

Not one national newspaper has made any complaint against this erosion of civil liberty. It is therefore of the utmost importance that the committee's campaign be given all possible support.

The committee needs money — to bring the families of the Ten to London to visit them, to ensure that food, cigarettes, books, etc. are made available, and for printing, the hire of halls, etc. At present the committee has no funds at all.

The committee hopes that a campaign for normal visiting facilities will soon be successful. We want to arrange a rota-system which will ensure that each of the Ten has the statutory one visit per day. We therefore urge people to send us their names to be put on such a rota-list.

Offers of help of any other kind will be gratefully received. For example, the families will need accommodation when they come to London.

All donations, names for the visiting rota, and other communications should be sent to Maureen Maguire at the above address.

# 57 YEARS LATER

*'IRISHMEN AND IRISHWOMEN: In the name of God and of the dead generations from which she receives her old traditions of nationhood, Ireland, through us, summons her children to her flag and strikes for her freedom. (Proclamation 1916)*

This year we commemorate the 57th anniversary of the Easter rising of 1916. The flame enkindled by that stupendous act of defiance to an Empire, burns as fiercely as ever in the hearts of dedicated Irish separatists today. The hopes and aspirations expressed in the Proclamation are the hopes and aspirations of the Republican movement of today. The declared aims of the revolutionaries of 1916 are the aims of today's freedom fighters.

Liberty, justice and dignity are everyman's birthright and in striving to attain those rights, filched from them by the invader, no nation on earth has fought harder and longer or suffered more than the Irish nation. For as long as enemy soldiers are garrisoned on Irish soil with the intention of frustrating the attainment of those objectives, then the people of Ireland will continue the fight, and so will their children and their children's children. That is the lesson of Irish history.

*'Racks, gibbets, halters were their arguments.'*

The enemy within Ireland's shores in 1916 is still there today. His weapons may be more modern, but his lies and calumnies are, word for word, the same. His appetite for brutality remains unsated, his 'peacekeepers' still kill with impunity. C.S. gas and the rubber bullet, the boot and the baton are his bounty to the people of Ireland. His concentration camps date from the Boer war, his hypocrisy from time immemorial. He preaches democracy and practices tyranny;



# EASTER WEEK

he condemns racial prejudice and encourages religious apartheid. Ireland must shake herself free, once and for all time, of this malevolent monkey on her back.

*'The Irish Republic is entitled to, and hereby claims, the allegiance of every Irishman and Irishwoman.'* (Proclamation 1916)

That declaration was answered magnificently by the Irish people in the ensuing years of the struggle, but never so magnificently as today, by the people of the six counties. The history of urban guerrilla warfare will have to be re-written after this fight is done. Never has an occupying army received such a mangling at the hands of an indigenous insurgent population as the British Army has suffered in the six counties; compared to the 'Tommy's' lot today, the occupation of France was a picnic for the German army.

The burden of the fight cannot be sustained indefinitely by the few, it must be shared by all of us. And every man and woman who lays claim to Irish nationality must face up to his and her responsibilities. We must realise that we owe a deep and lasting debt to those of our fellow countrymen who are in the front line of the fighting. They are fighting for all of us; They are entitled to our unstinting support.

The Proclamation was written fifty seven years ago but its message is as valid today as it was in 1916.

## The Annual Easter Commemoration

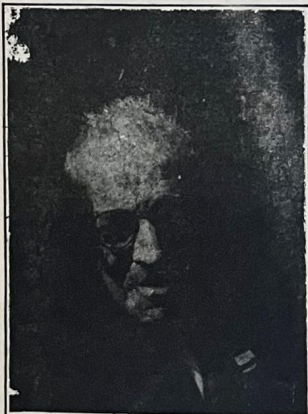
The annual Easter Commemoration Rally will be held in London on Sunday 22nd April 1973.

Assembly point will be Speakers Corner, Hyde Park at 3 p.m. for march to Kilburn Square, Kilburn High Road, N.W.6.

The guest of honour will be Joe Clarke, veteran of the 1916 Rising and patron of Sinn Fein. The principal speaker will be a prominent member of the Sinn Fein Ard Comhairle.

A warm welcome is extended to all organisations and individuals wishing to participate in honouring those who have given their lives in Ireland's revolutionary struggles, past and present.

Coaches will travel from Bristol, Coventry, Liverpool, Birmingham, Luton, Slough, Oxford and Wolverhampton. For details contact your local cumann of Sinn Fein.



**EASTER GREETINGS:- SINN FEIN IN BRITAIN SENDS FRATERNAL GREETINGS TO ALL REPUBLICAN PRISONERS IN GAOLS IN IRELAND, ENGLAND AND AMERICA.**

Sinn Fein in Britain extends a 'Cead Mile Failte Rombait' to Mr. and Mrs. Joe Clarke who will be the guests of honour at our Easterweek celebrations here in London.

# The Spirit of 1916

As everybody who does not walk around with their eyes shut knows, for the past four years there has been a full scale war raging in the six occupied counties of Ireland, known mistakenly to most people as "Ulster". A war situation which has dragged everyone into it. This has not been a war of the few, waged by a few and fought by a few, as was 1916, but a war fought on all levels, by the entire beleaguered peoples of the six counties.

This four years, is the longest period of sustained fighting that has ever taken place in the whole of Ireland's turbulent history. And for this reason, it is not too far-fetched to regard it as possibly being the final stage in a history of bloody rebellion, and even bloodier suppression, waged over the centuries, in an attempt to obtain the complete freedom of Ireland.

Each generation of Irishmen has given birth to the men and women who love their country enough to be prepared to sacrifice all for that country. In every generation, from Brian Boru, through Wolfe Tone and up to modern times,

Ireland has produced children willing to go forward, against all odds and fight and die for the right to be free from the yoke of slavery. And this generation has proved to be no exception from that rule.

The spirit of 1916 has been reborn in Belfast and Derry, it is there, on the streets, behind the walls and in the hidden sniping places of occupied Ireland. It lives in the ranks of the IRA of Cumman na m'Bhann and of na Fianna h'Eireann. It lives, it burns and it cannot this time be killed or extinguished. For four long bloody years, Britain has thrown the might of her army against the Irish people. They have used every trick in the book, broken every rule in an attempt to make the croppies lie down again. But the croppies are up, they are no longer on their knees grovelling at the feet of their mistress, the queen of England. They are up on their feet, and they have proved, beyond the shadow of a doubt that they intend to stay that way.

Attacks on this new generation of patriots have been cruel and vicious. They can rely on

none but their own for succour. But even this cannot deter their glorious fight. They have been called murderers and thugs, their families have been broken up. Their sons and fathers have been taken away or killed. Even their mothers and daughters are no longer safe. But where you or I would have given up in despair, they fight on. And theirs will be the eventual victory.

The cause of Ireland is an old and holy one. Old because it has been going on for generations

The cause of Ireland is an old and holy one. Old because it has been going on for centuries, holy because each generation of Irishmen raises a race of people who have faith in their cause. In past campaigns, these people have always been suppressed, there has never been any light at the end of the tunnel. The light was first sighted in Easter 1916. That light is even nearer now.

*Diarmaid Macna*

# WHAT SINN FÉIN MEANS

IN EUROPE TODAY, the word "regionalisation" (or "regionalism") is used to describe three quite different things:

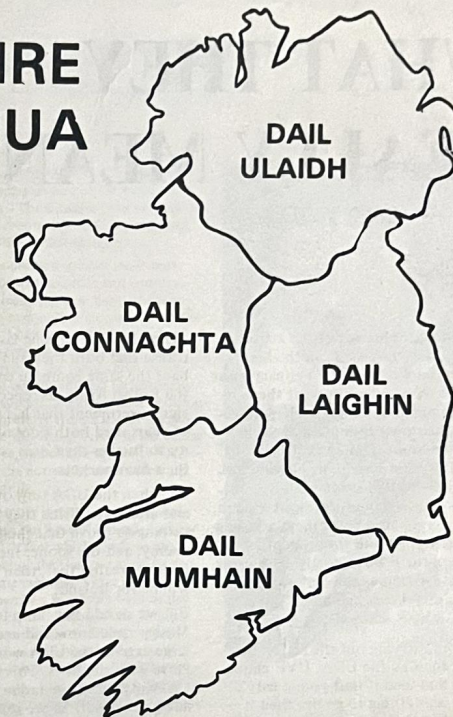
1. Taking away powers from primary local authorities and giving them to regional authorities. This use of the word is particularly marked in Ireland.
2. Dividing up the State into ECONOMIC PLANNING REGIONS, for which the planning is done centrally with some advice from regional consultative bodies that have no powers of their own. This kind of "regionalisation" exists IN FACT in Britain and France, and IN THEORY in Ireland (no plans for the Irish "planning regions" have actually been produced). To call this sort of thing "regionalisation" is misleading for two reasons. Firstly, it confers no power, even planning power, on the region. Secondly, it refers only to ONE aspect of government and semi-state action — economic planning. The Irish "planning regions" exist only for the IDA and the Department of so-called "local government". All the other Departments (Agriculture, Education, Health, Social Welfare, etc.) and the semi-state bodies (ESB, Bord Failte, CIE, etc.) operate according to their separate regional systems and carry merrily along as if the "planning regions" did not exist.

3. The third meaning of "regionalisation" is THE CREATION OF REGIONAL PUBLIC AUTHORITIES UNDER DEMOCRATIC CONTROL; the CO-ORDINATION in these bodies of major government and semi-state action in the region; and the DEVOLUTION to these bodies of the appropriate powers from central government. In short, the re-organisation of major state services in the region IN A CO-ORDINATED FORM under a MULTI-PURPOSE, DEMOCRATIC REGIONAL GOVERNMENT. Some countries had no need of such "regionalisation" of government since they already possessed self-governing regional communities e.g. the Swiss CANTON, the German LAND, the Dutch PROVINCE. But others, which had no regional community between the primary local authority and the central government, have been moving in this direction.

Italy has established 20 regional governments; Belgium has constituted a Flemish, a Walloon and a Brussels region; in France, the establishment of self-governing regions has been the subject of political debate for several years.

It is this third kind of regionalisation which Sinn Féin proposes for the New Ireland.

ÉIRE  
NUA



"IRELAND UNFREE SHALL NEVER BE AT PEACE"

PADRAIC H. PEARSE

## BY REGIONALISATION

It is the only kind of "regionalisation" which is of any real value. Only by reconstructing the Irish state in this manner can the appalling regional imbalances within Ireland be corrected — only in this way, and NOT by "planning" or "aid" handed down from Dublin.

Our present chaotic system of centralised government — the most centralised in Western Europe — with each department and semi-state body running its own autonomous empire, has manifestly failed to produce a balanced spread of population and prosperity throughout the country. Nor has it been able to prevent the progressive destruction of Dublin — socially and physically.

Moreover, this ruthlessly centralised state, with its all-powerful bureaucracy dominating the elected representatives, cannot really be described as a DEMOCRACY. Nor is it the kind of state which could possibly attract the Ulster Protestants, jealous of their own traditions and autonomy. Indeed, the monopolistic structure of the Dublin state was one of the principal, underlying reasons why partition occurred in the first place; and the threat which it represents for local minorities (witness

the fate of the Gaeltacht over 50 years) has certainly helped to maintain partition.

Sinn Féin proposes to restructure government in Munster, Leinster, Connacht and Ulster on the following lines:—

**DISTRICT COUNCILS** for the local communities of 10,000–40,000 people, both in the county areas and within the large cities. Representation on these councils for elected community councils.

**FIFTEEN REGIONAL ADMINISTRATIONS** grouping these districts together as regional communities in the Cork, Dublin and Belfast conurbations; in North Munster, South Munster, East Ulster, West Ulster, North Connacht, etc.; and in a special Gaeltacht region.

**FOUR PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENTS** grouping the regional administrations under a central Dail Éireann in Athlone.

If you agree that this is the sort of "regionalisation" which Ireland needs — and the only kind which will make any real difference — then give your support to Sinn Féin.

# SINN FÉIN FOR A NEW IRELAND

## OUR AIM

An Ireland of self-governing communities in which the people control their own affairs: their own employment, their own natural resources, their own schools, their own wages and prices, their own housing and environment. An Ireland which Irish men and women can call **their own** and take pride in.

## OUR MEANS

In the cities of Dublin, Belfast and Cork, and in each of the 32 Counties: **DISTRICT COUNCILS** for every 10-40,000 people, with district administrative offices. Representation for elected **COMMUNITY COUNCILS** on the District Councils. The District Offices to deal with Social Welfare, Primary Education, Trading Practice, Employment Conditions, Job Opportunities, Agriculture, Fishing, Small Industry, Co-operative Enterprise, Housing, Lands and Planning Permission.

The Districts to be grouped together under 15 **REGIONAL ADMINISTRATIONS** & **FOUR PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENTS** in Ulster, Munster, Leinster and Connacht. A self-governing **GAELTACHT REGION**. An **ALL-IRELAND PARLIAMENT** in Athlone.

**BANKS** to be nationalised.

**MINES AND MINING** under public control for Irish profit.

A **NEW CONSTITUTION** through all-Ireland consultations.

A **STATUTE OF BASIC CITIZENS' RIGHTS**.

If you want this sort of Ireland, help us build it by joining a **SINN FÉIN CUMANN**.

SINN FEIN OFFERS YOU AN ALTERNATIVE  
IRELAND AND ASKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

March, 1973.

JOIN SINN FEIN TO-DAY

107 Goldhawk Rd, London W. 12

# LOYALIST STRIKES WHAT THEY REALLY MEAN

Any impartial observer of the actions taken by the "Loyalists" in the Six Counties on Wednesday 7 February must surely be wondering just what they are trying to prove by taking such action against their own community. At the same time, some of the "Loyalists" themselves must also be wondering just who's side they are supposed to be on, and this after a day of rioting and arson, and concerted attacks on the occupying British army. As one young lady, interviewed on the B.B.C. shortly afterwards, observed, "That was the best day's work the I.R.A. ever did, and all they had to do was sit back and watch."

Indeed, in carrying out the action on that Wednesday the UDA, UVF clique did just that, and if that young lady's opinion is anything to go on, then it would seem apparent that some of the

"Loyalists" are at long last beginning to realise that both they and the Provos have the same common enemy, that of the British Army, as representing a foreign government that has for hundreds of years used both sides of the community to further their own ends and to fill their own pockets.

So, when the UDA turn out en-masse and attack the Brits, they are simply helping to prove that there is a common enemy, and the sooner more people come to realise that, then the better it will be for Ireland.

But we should not jump to conclusions. Most people know and accept that to a large extent, the UDA works hand in glove with the Brits. This is a fact that the many recent sectarian murders are adequate proof. So we can take it that when the British Army is attacked by

the UDA it is not with the orders of the higher echelons. Largely, in these cases, it is a case of mob rule. The mob demands, and rather than appear small before their own people, the UDA acts . . . and probably apologises to the Army afterwards.

Still, the fact remains that when suitably provoked, the Loyalists will react, and react in a significant manner as well. Maybe in time, they will stop reacting to these isolated instances and realise that their best interests lie, not with those forces that they have come to hate over the past year, but with the forces that they have been told to hate for many years. The forces of Republicanism and the Irish Republican Army.

P.S. We haven't noticed any riots as a result of the arrest of John McKeague. . . we wonder why?

## 'Moterman' cleared for murderers

Mr. Paddy Kennedy, M.P. in a statement recently, said that ever since the White-law administration had yielded to extreme Unionist pressure and removed the protecting barricades in the Republican areas, over 100 people had been murdered.

At the time 'Operation Motorman' was mounted, many assurances were given by the British that the people of these areas would be adequately protected. Now it would appear that 'Motorman' was a mere softening-up process to allow the Unionist extremists and the British Army murder squads to move in and kill defenceless people in the Catholic areas.

The worst atrocity by these terrorists was the cold blooded massacre of six unarmed men in the New Lodge Rd area of Belfast. How is it possible that in areas saturated with the forces of occupation, such bare faced murders can and do occur regularly? Obviously, there is connivance between the British and the Orange extremists. These murder squads are obviously practising what Brigadier Frank Kitson preaches in his book on counter insurgency—*Low Intensity Operations*.

# FIANNA FAIL WHERE TO NOW

The result of the recent election in the Free State is interesting in so much as we will now be treated to the spectacle of Fianna Fail attempting to rethink their policies. We can expect them to lay on sickly layers of their watered Republicanism. Easter will no doubt see them performing in the best soap-box style and calling on the British to get out. They will conveniently forget their own repulsive collaboration which resulted in men suffering imprisonment because they cared what happened to their country.

The anniversary of the Easter Rising will give us the soldiers of destiny singing the praises of the men who fought and died. What they forget is that if the martyrs were living now, and Fianna Fail was in power, Pearse and Connolly would be in the

Currage behind wire fences, along with their comrades who acted without the mandate of the people — as if the denial of determining your own future was not mandate enough.

Fianna Fail have paid the price of sitting on the fence. They have been dismissed by their own Free State lackeys, while their courtiers serve only to further sicken Republicans.

They now know that the only way to achieve victory is by action and not by tugging the fore-lock in the direction of Westminster. But being a collection of chancers and political eunuchs they will be able to do nothing about it. Once committed to the Free State system, they have no chance of winning the trust of Republicans. They will mock Fine Gael, (thank God for

something), for their failure to force Britains arm to withdrawal and no doubt the system will return them in due course. On being returned they will proceed to make the same classic errors once more, — and so the circle will turn again.

This, then, is the future for Fianna Fail; a future of stagnation and lack of initiative. This is what will happen unless the Republican Movement wins. The victory will only come after hard work and much labour — but it is there waiting to be seized. Against opposition parties which are so obviously politically destitute, we will win the fight. We will win while the Staters are shaping and posturing and chasing each other in ever-decreasing circles.

Jerry Murphy

## Thin red line

Fashion notes of what the well dressed PR man should wear.

A new tie has been issued to the Army public relations men at Lisburn in the six counties. As well as a harp and a pen crossed with a sword, it carries a series of orange and green stripes as a recurring motif. The stripes are separated by a thin red line.

## Killer Driver

Mr. Peter Black, British Under Secretary for the army admitted to the House of Commons on Monday 5 February that "the total number of deaths resulting from incidents in which British army vehicles were involved in Northern Ireland since August 1969 was 55." These alarming figures were further increased three days later, when on 8 February a 70 year old woman, Mrs. Teresa Curran, on her way home from confession at St. Patricks Church, Donegall St. Belfast, was run down and killed by a ten ton armoured car. This was the latest example of the British army's total disregard of the highway code. These maniacal drivers speed through the streets in their armoured vehicles, without lights, usually tanked up on alcohol and drugs because of their ever present fear of rocket attack.

We ask, have the rules of the road also been suspended in the six counties and how many members of the British Army have been charged before the courts with the killing of 56 of our compatriots?

On being asked, many people question the point of joining Sinn Fein in Britain. "After all," they ask, "what can we do over here? Why should we do anything for the country that spurned us?" And indeed, for those who know no better, this is a valid argument. Why should they, having been forced to leave and seek work over here, then turn round and work from a foreign country for the betterment of Ireland.

The truth is simple. It is not Ireland's fault that they have been thus exiled. It is the fault of the various governments of Ireland since 1921, regimes who have taken their orders from Westminster and have thus caused the continual emigration which has been one of Ireland's curses for hundreds of years.

The Sinn Fein member in this country has a very valuable part to play. Any talent that he has can be put to some use. He or she can help to collect urgently needed funds, to sell papers,

or to help in some way to counter the lies and slander that are spread about Sinn Fein by the British Government and the gutter press.

## SINN FEIN

It is no man's right or privilege to join Sinn Fein, but it is the duty of every man who calls himself Irish to help his country in her hour of need. That hour is now, and the way to help is to join Sinn Fein. Remember, Sinn Fein is the only political group who have stood by the original aims of Republicanism as laid down by Tone, Emmet, Pearse and Clarke. Will you play a part in Ireland's future, or will you play the traitor's game. . . . by doing nothing.  
JOIN SINN FEIN

### SINN FEIN (LONDON).

There are at the moment, six cumannns in London as follows:-

Area	Name of Cumann
Kilburn	Roger Casement
Hammersmith	Terence McSwiney
North London	Wolfe Tone
East London	Patrick McAdorey
South London	Tom Williams
South East London	Paddy Dermody

Cumanns outside London are based in the following areas:- Oxford, St Albans, Watford, Luton, Bletchly, Bristol, Liverpool, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Huddersfield and Leicester. For details write to 107 Goldhawk Road, London W.12

If you are unable to become active in a cumann you can become an Associate member:- write to 44 Parnell Square Dublin 1.

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# ROGER CASEMENT

Roger Casement was born on September 1st, 1864 at Sandycove, Dublin. His father was an ardent Nationalist who resigned his commission in the British army rather than take part in the evictions and harassment of his fellow countrymen in County Sligo. He joined with John Mitchel in the Liberation movement and when Mitchel was captured, Casement's father was exiled. Casement was nine years old when his parents died and he went to live with an uncle in Antrim where he read widely on Irish history and culture.

In 1887 Casement joined the American General Henry Sandford on an expedition to the Congo. From 1892 to 1904 he held various posts with the British Consula Service in Africa. It was during this period that he uncovered the conditions of slavery which resulted in people being mutilated, terrorised and tortured by white agents of Belgian rubber interests. From 1910 to 1913 he campaigned against the savage treatment of the Indians in Putamayo at the hands of the Peruvian Cmazon Coy, a company registered in England.

Casement returned to Ireland in 1913 and resumed his active participation in Nationalist movements. He advocated, and as far as he could, subsidized the teaching of Gaelic in such schools as the Irish School in Galway and St. Enda's in Dublin. Subsequently he campaigned in America and Germany for aid for the Irish Freedom movement and it was while he was in Germany that he heard of the plans for the Easter Rising of 1916. He returned to Ireland by submarine but was captured shortly after landing on the shore of Traler Bay.

Roger Casement was hanged in Pentonville prison on August 3rd, 1916 after one of the most disgraceful travesties of justice ever perpetrated by a court of Law, even a British one.

Casement had spent himself in the service of underprivileged and exploited humanity in Africa and Putamayo and for this he was eulogised from the pulpit of Westminster Abbey, but he offended the British Imperialists when he extended his humanitarian principles to aiding his own exploited country; for this he had to die. Such was the reputation of this great and noble man that an attempt must be made to divert any popular movement for his reprieve, especially in America. So was launched one of the most vicious campaigns of calumny by some of the most unspeakable creatures ever vomited up by the British establishment. F.E. Smith (Lord Birkenhead) Attorney-General, Captain Hall, British Naval Intelligence and Sir Basil Thompson Commissioner of Police all conspired together, under the malevolent sponsorship of Asquith, to circulate copies of a forged diary imputing the vilest of practices against the noblest of men; like pariah dogs smearing their dirt on a Pieta. The measure of their failure in their purpose is that Roger Casement's memory is loved and revered today all over the world; his furtive detractors are remembered with loathing and contempt.

## THE ROGER CASEMENT CUMANN (KILBURN)

The Roger Casement Cumann is the largest cumann in England, with an active membership of about 45. The sale of Republican newspapers, fund raising, political education and Irish language classes and running social functions are but a few of its activities which have played no small part in attracting increasing support

for the Republican movement in London and an increased understanding of the situation in the six counties. The Cumann places emphasis on the need to counteract the lying anti-Irish propaganda of the British gutter press.

Being in an area deemed to have the densest concentration of Irish exiles in this country, the Roger Casement Cumann has perhaps an easier task than many other cumanns, nevertheless, its members have not relaxed in their efforts to press home the Republican message to the local people in the pubs, clubs, dance halls and on the streets, and can be justifiably proud of their success. Members have occasionally met some hostility from a few of the more mindless people they come across in the course of their activities, and of course, police harassment is one of the normal hazards which are taken in their stride.

The average member is relatively young and many come from the West of Ireland, notably Mayo and Eligo, a fact which confirms the wretched neglect of the Gaeltacht areas by successive Free State regimes. There is also a sprinkling of members who were born in this country. Most of the members have found their niche in a particular activity at which they excel. For instance among the star fund raisers are Kevin Dunphy, Tom Clohercy and Desie Subhlain. Our star paper seller is Mrs. Cherry Spears while busily involved in the recently formed Publicity Committee are Patrick O Dea and Diarmaid MacNua. The chairman Derek Heighstead is also chairman of the London Comhairle Ceantair.

An illustration of the spirit of the cumann is the action of Willie Rieilly, a Scots born boxer of Irish parents, who discarded the British light-heavy weight title and gave up a promising career in boxing rather than be in any way associated with the oppression in Ireland.



## PUBLIC FORUM-Letters to the Editor

A Chara,

I have been informed that the Republican Movement in London is to bring out a regular paper. I hope you will allow me space to mention a fact that really angers me. This is the complacency of the majority of Irish people in this city. Those who are not completely disinterested become Republicans only when such emotions are aroused by drink. I am not criticising drinking, but it is a curious fact how many revellers have staggered through the patriotic ballads and verses. I hope that your paper will make some people think "What can I do?" If enough people react in the true spirit, the Movement in this city will be able to make itself felt in a forcible manner.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to have a say,

Tim McCarthy (London)

A Chara,

I was very interested to hear that at last London is going to have its own Republican paper. And not before time either.

For too long now, the real Republican Movement in this country has had to put up with lies and slander aimed at it, not only from the British Government and the Northern Irish authorities, but also from those quarters that claim to support demands for a United Ireland, and unfortunately, up until now, Sinn Fein

has chosen to remain silent. Now at last, it seems as though that silence is about to be broken, let us hope that it is to some avail and that this fresh, and much needed, new approach does not fall upon deaf ears.

Of course, we all know that *Irish Freedom* is not the only Republican paper available, there are also *An Phoblacht* and *Republican News* but let's face it, these papers, excellent though they are, are both imported from Ireland, and therefore to the majority are, to a certain extent, isolated from the people over here in London. The advent of a paper produced over here, and, we hope, containing news of events in London, should go more than a little way towards bringing the struggle in the North "home" to the largely apathetic Irish community resident in this city.

Over the past couple of years Sinn Fein have had to put up with continuing and increasing attacks from the left-wing press, notably *Socialist Worker* and the *Socialist Standard*. Members and leaders of that worthy movement have been slandered as thugs and fascists. Now, with the help of *Irish Freedom* let us hope that Sinn Fein can make quite clear just what they are and what they stand for, and that the cause of Irish freedom will not be dictated by the extreme left wing but by the rightful proponents of unity in Ireland, that is to say Sinn Fein.

May I wish you all the very best of luck with

your new project. Those who have ears let them hear.

Signed, A London Provo.

Dear Sir,

Having regard to the principles and policies of Sinn Fein and to the concern felt by Irish people abroad for their home country and their desire to return to Ireland, it is hereby proposed:-

That as Sinn Fein considers that all Irish people are citizens of the Republic whether they reside at home or abroad until such time as they voluntarily renounce that citizenship upon taking up citizenship elsewhere; by virtue of this citizenship the Irish abroad are entitled to be given the opportunity to return to Ireland and therefore an exodus of Irish people back to Ireland from abroad becomes a natural and necessary requirement of fulfilment of that citizenship and should begin immediately. It follows also that unused land and resources in Ireland, and land and resources in the hands of foreigners who are not deemed to be making a major contribution to the Republic should be given *free* to Irish people who are willing and who desire to return to Ireland to live as individuals in the Irish community or in chosen forms of co-operative communities.

It is seen as fundamental to this concept and

a necessary extension of the proposal of citizenship that Sinn Fein explicitly makes provision for promotion of the affairs of Irish people abroad in the interim period before their return insofar as those interests are in line with their desire to return to Ireland as well as with the good of the Republic.

In order to administer these complex programmes the Sinn Fein government on its accession to power should set up a full department of government with responsibility for the acquisition of land and resources on behalf of the Irish abroad, organising the return of emigrants and promoting the interests of Irish abroad.

The proposal also includes the setting up by Sinn Fein in the period before accession to power a provisional department with the same responsibilities.

The programme outlined must be based on democratic structures and a department of government as proposed must be accountable to an electorate. That electorate must be the Irish abroad and it is therefore again a necessary extension of the proposal that the Irish abroad should have a vote in all general elections at regional, provincial and central government levels.

Is mise le meas

Geaird O'Floinn

# Na Fianna Éireann

Gluaiscacht Gasóglach agus  
Banóglach Náisiunta na hÉireann

Na Fianna Éireann was founded in 1909 by Countess Markievicz and Bulmer Hobson in order to help the young boys and young men to a fuller appreciation of their Gaelic cultural heritage.

Na Fianna Éireann is now recruiting for sluaigh based in England. Apply to:-  
12, Jennifer House,  
Reedworth St.  
London S.E.11 4PF



Above: Scouts of Na Fianna on parade.



Countess Markievicz  
Co-Founder of Na Fianna Éireann

## TO ALL IRISH BOYS

We of Na Fianna Éireann, at the beginning of this year 1973, a year which is likely to be momentous in the history of our country, address ourselves to Irish boys and invite them to band themselves with us in knightly service. We believe that the highest thing anyone can do is to serve well and truly, and we purpose to serve Ireland with all our fealty and with all our strength. Two occasions are spoken of in ancient Irish story upon which Irish boys marched to the rescue of their country when it was sore beset—once when Cuchulainn and the boy troop of Ulster held the frontier until the Ulster heroes rose, and again when the boys of Ireland held the foreign invaders in check on the shores of Ventry until Fionn had rallied the Fianna: it may be that a similar tale shall be told of us, and that when men come to write the history of the freeing of Ireland they shall have to record that the boys of Na Fianna Éireann stood in the battle-gap with the Volunteers.

We believe, as every Irish boy whose heart has not been corrupted by foreign influence must believe that our country ought to be free. We do not see why Ireland should allow England to govern her, either through Englishmen, or through Irishmen, under an appearance of self-government. We believe that England has no business in Ireland at all, — that Ireland, from the centre to the zenith, belongs to the Irish. Our forefathers believed this and fought for it: Hugh O'Donnell and Hugh O'Neill and Rory O'More and Owen Roe O'Neill, Tone and Emmet and Davis and Mitchel. What was true in their time is still true. Nothing that has happened or that can ever happen can alter the truth of it. Ireland belongs to the Irish. We believe, then, that it is the duty of Irishmen to struggle always, never giving in or growing weary, until they have won back their country again.

We are not mere "Boy Scouts," although we teach and practice the art of scouting. Physical culture, marching, the routine of camp life, semaphore and Morse signalling, scouting in all its branches, elementary tactics, ambulance and first aid, swimming, hurling, and football are all included in our scheme of training. This does not exhaust our programme, for we believe that mental culture should go hand in hand with physical culture, and we provide instruction in Irish and in Irish History, lectures on historical and literary subjects, and musical and social entertainments as opportunities permit.

Finally, we believe with Thomas Davis that "RIGHTEOUS men" must "make our land a Nation Once Again." Hence we endeavour to train our boys to be pure, truthful, honest, sober, kindly, clean in heart as well as in body; generous in their service to their parents and companions now as we would have them generous in their service to their country hereafter. We bear a very noble name and inherit very noble traditions, for we are called after the Fianna of Fionn, that heroic companionship which, according to legend, flourished in Ireland in the second and third centuries of the Christian era.

"We, the Fianna, never told a lie,  
Falsehood was never imputed to us,"

said Oisín to Saint Patrick; and again when Patrick asked Caoilte Mac Ronain how it came that the Fianna won all their battles, Caoilte replied: "Strength that was in our hands, truth that was on our lips, and purity that was in our hearts."

Is it too much to hope that after so many centuries the old ideals are still quick in the heart of Irish youth, and that this year we shall get many hundred Irish boys to come forward and help us to build up a brotherhood of young Irishmen strong of limb, true and pure in tongue and heart, chivalrous, cultured in a really Irish sense, and ready to spend themselves in the service of their country?

sinne  
na fianna éireann.

The above is an updated version of a recruiting poster of 1914.

### G.H.Q. (IRELAND)

As the Fianna continues to grow in strength up and down the country, the need for adult leadership becomes greater and adult leaders are required if this growth is to continue. If you are a young, nationally-minded adult and are prepared to give service active service, we put it to you that you can best serve the Ireland of today and tomorrow by joining with us in Na Fianna.

#### Can I Help?

The Department of Associate Membership was re-organised in 1962 and its membership has progressively increased ever since. They have provided contacts and billets for our Organisers on numerous occasions. They have also been actively engaged in helping to finance the activities of the organisation. Consequently the progress of the organisation is dependant to a large extent on the support of these members. When there are sufficient members in an area they are formed into a branch, which runs functions to boost the organisation's finances. Many more members are needed and even if they do not participate actively, they can help in many other ways.

Associate membership is open to all irrespective of age or sex, who are prepared to observe the constitution and rules of the organisation. Each member pays a fee of £1 per annum, which entitles him or her to a badge, membership card and the special quarterly bulletin "Fianna." You may become an Associate Member by completing the following form.

I wish to become an Associate Member  
of Na Fianna Éireann

Ainm ..... I enclose Membership Fee

Seoladh ..... of £1 (Cash/Cheque/Postal Order/

..... Money Order).

Send to Q.M.G. Valerie Gaffey, c/o Na Fianna Éireann, 64,  
Blarney St., Cork City.