

An Phoblacht

Iml. 4 Uimh. 20 5p 22 Meitheamh 1973



WHITELAW'S ELECTION FARCE

THE BORDER POLL, The Local Elections and now the big line up for Willie Whitelaw's Assembly Election Farce.

The Unionist Party split into 14 different camps, the Alliance Party, the S.D.L.P. and all the other social climbers and blood money gombeen men and women are all in the field for a seat in the new Stormont.

WE SAY — SPOIL YOUR VOTE, AND SPOIL IT EARLY — Write on your Ballot

Paper the words "GET THEM OUT" By this we mean get the Fitts, Humes, Curries and all the other pro-British elements out.

Peace can only come, when British troops leave Ireland — Then we can have a truly free election for all the people of Ireland without interference by any foreign power.

The new Stormont cannot work — It is doomed to failure — The fight will continue until the British withdraw.

We see no difference in being interned by Cosgrave, Faulkner, or Gerry Fitt. You are either in support of the Freedom Fighters or you stand in the enemy camp with the British Murder Troops —

Give them your answer on June 28th. **SPOIL YOUR VOTE AND SPOIL IT EARLY** — Every spoiled vote is a nail in Whitelaw's and England's and the collaborators' coffin. —



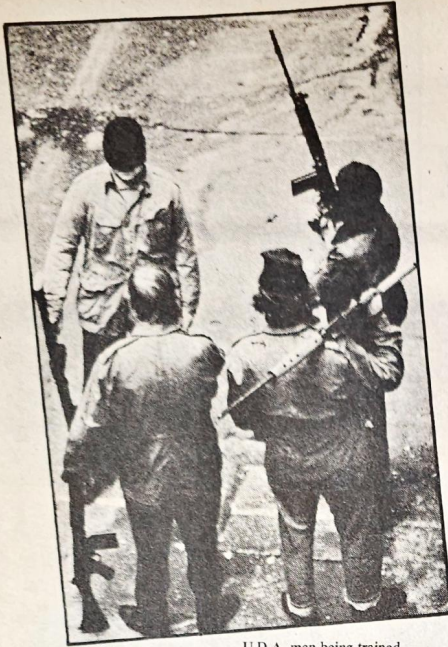
**HELP FREE
THE
POLITICAL
HOSTAGES**



**SPOIL
YOUR
VOTE**



**SPOIL
IT
EARLY!**



U.D.A. men being trained with arms (SLR rifles) identical to those used by the British Army of occupation.

Britain turns the screw on the Protestant workers



Unarmed U.D.A. man learns the craft of combat against an armed adversary (with SLR rifle).

Second front would speed withdrawal day

IF THE Protestant working class decides to fight the British instead of taking their punishment and allowing their leaders to be rounded up, British withdrawal could be assured within months.

Britain is put to the pin of her collar at present to maintain any semblance of administration in the Six Counties outside the larger areas of population.

Even in these areas troops are extended to the utmost, guarding streets, shops, factories, power plants, outposts, barracks and all the rest of it.

The strategy of O'Connell na hEireann is to stretch the troops to the utmost — until something snaps.

With Protestant working class involvement Britain's armed resources will be stretched even more. The task will become even more impossible. Half a million soldiers would be needed in the North to do the job.

Britain cannot provide such numbers and will not get them on loan from her allies.

The addition of 26 Counties soldiers and police would be a mere drop in the ocean — if available, even in Derry, Tyrone and south Armagh.

With the opening of the second front — by the Protestant workers — all Britain could do would be to withdraw from the countryside to the larger towns and, from them, within a matter of months, to "the mainland", back to Britain.

One way or another W (for withdrawal) Day is approaching. The Protestant second front could speed its dawning considerably.

BAN THIS BULLET

Six people including three school children, have now been killed by rubber bullets. Thirteen people have been blinded by this same weapon.

Following the report of four Belfast surgeons about these and other serious injuries, a campaign is under way to have this "toy" taken out of the hands of British Soldiers in the north.

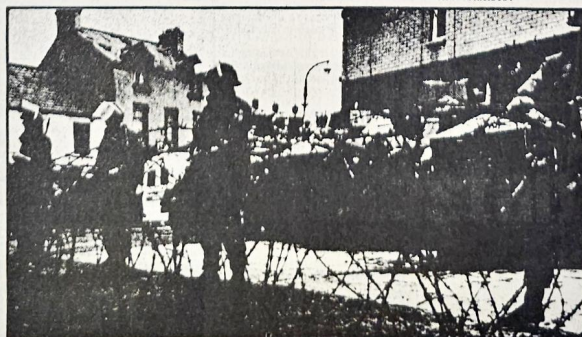
JUST LIKE SICILY

I WAS STUNNED to read that CONOR CRUISE O'Brien had appointed his son-in-law to some grand job at the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. I thought that was the sort of thing that Fianna Fail specialised in.

Not that the practice of nepotism shocks the Irish people. It is quite an honourable tradition in Ireland, as in Sicily, you are regarded as a bit of a bouncer if you don't give the boys a bit of the action. It is the alacrity with which the act was done that will, I imagine amaze. "You'd have thought," a London Irishman said to me, "that he'd have had the decency to warn the bed first." I suppose this was what they meant by honest Government; doing it all so openly.

Still, I hope that Nicholas Simms turns out to be very good at his job. I think he had better be.

Mary Kenny in "Hibernia".



WILL THEY FIGHT?

WHY should the Whitelaw administration now be hounding those Protestant working class elements who are unwilling to support either the old Unionist Party, under Brian Faulkner, or the Alliance Party?

To answer the question needs merely some understanding of the policy of Messrs. Heath and Whitelaw, one that might be titled "the carrot and the stick".

There are also the assurances given to Jack (Union) Lynch and Liam (Vichy) Cosgrave, assurances that have to be orchestrated now and then by harassing Protestant workers.

The assurances given are that Protestant workers will get the same treatment as Catholic workers in the process of disarmament, including torture and detention without trial.

Willie Whitelaw and his master, Ted Heath, want that most obedient Unionist, Brian Faulkner, to control the new Belfast assembly with, preferably, a strong Alliance and S.D.L.P. to complete the fiction that "Ulster" finally has chosen puppetry to freedom.

That having been achieved, O'Connell na hEireann will go away and another 50 years of exploitation and misery can be assured: thus the impious hope. But, judging by the pattern

established by the local government voting, it was not likely to turn out that way.

Something would have to be done to scare the Protestants into a stampede into Unionism or Alliance (or even S.D.L.P.).

The "something" had been done in other working class areas to try to stampede Catholics into S.D.L.P. or Alliance, with some measure of success.

The same policy, over the years, had been tried by British

British troops in full riot gear in an Irish town, a common sight in the North — but for how much longer if the second front — that of the Protestant workers — materialises?



Mr. Oystereyres.

New gas is condemned

CR gas, Britain's new "crowd control" gas which may be used in the North against Catholic and Protestant workers, has been condemned by the British Society for Social Responsibility in Science.

The Society, which has a membership of hundreds of scientists, says:

"Any chemical agent which is capable of affecting the fittest and most healthy sections of the population is likely to be extremely hazardous to the young, the aged and the sick".

Commenting on news that Britain and America have developed CR to place CS, the Society says there are now reports that CR is to be produced on a large scale at Nancowick, the British Government chemical manufacturing establishment in Cornwall.

CR, says the statement, is described as "More effective" than CS, irritating the skin as well as affecting the eyes, nose, throat and stomach.

The Society claim that CS has been in the short term a contributory factor in a number of deaths, and some recent research suggests that in the long term it may be carcinogenic.

Jails break EEC regulations

DR. David Thornley, T.D., speaking at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, said that conditions in many Irish prisons would certainly not meet new regulations on prison standards laid down by the Council of Europe.

These regulations are aimed at changing the concept of prison as a place of punishment, pure and simple, and Dr. Thornley said there were many prisons in Ireland where this was the only conceivable end in view.

The result was that young men came out unreformed and were put on the road to becoming hardened criminals.

The want you home, Tommie

DON'T KEEP THEM WAITING

Lenár dTuirisceoirí

A TREMENDOUS victory for the Republican Movement has been achieved in the battle for the truth: the clamour for the removal of British troops from Ireland now is being heard over the length and breadth of Britain and is being echoed all over western Europe and America.

As soon as the intellectuals got together, nationally and internationally, to demand the withdrawal of American troops from Vietnam, the war had been won by the Vietnamese: it was only a question of time and heart-breaking negotiation before they were pulled out.

That time has arrived in Ireland now with the full page advertisement in the "New Statesman" demanding the withdrawal of British soldiers from Ireland and signed by 123 intellectuals — poets, dramatists, novelists, actors, political activists, realists including the playwright John Arden, the "Guardian" journalist, Richard Scott, the comedian, Spike Milligan, the poet Adrian Mitchell and the former chairman of the British Young Liberals, Louis Lakes.

The so-called "Peace Women" and similar groups, including clergy of all denominations, should be urged to demonstrate their sincerity by kicking the British "withdraw the troops" movement.

Whenever it is feasible, British troops in the North — and in Germany or wherever else they are stationed — should be leafleted, faced with posters telling of the growing demand at home to have them withdrawn, and urging them to add their own voices to the voice of reason. Write posters such as this: "Why should YOU be asked to die for Ireland? Your people want you home". Such a campaign can strike a telling blow at the warlords of the British military establishment and of their Tory and Unionist masters.

At full blast

Full use, on the widest scale possible, must be made use of the important: Republican victory in the battle for truth. The friend of imperialism will be silence, failure to exploit the situation, laziness. What the British would like would be a complete damper on publicity or a low-powered campaign which would fizzle out during the summer months.

The campaign, to succeed, needs to be intensified throughout the summer and continued at full blast into the winter with a peak aimed at during the Christmas-New Year period. With luck, the first signs of withdrawal might be seen in the spring.

The "withdrawal" campaign can be used to drown British propaganda in favour of the Belfast assembly election, to strengthen the people's will to resist and their determination to abstain from fruitless, window-dressing politics. The dupes of British imperialism, masquerading as peace-lovers, can be shown up for what they are.

The "New Statesman" advertisement makes it clear that the group sponsoring the campaign in Britain will seek to dissuade soldiers from serving in Ireland. It is understood that its wording was much stronger when the advertisement was submitted originally to the "New Statesman" management. It was emasculated, somewhat, for legal reasons. Thus the plea to soldiers to desert was toned down.

According to Mr. Howard Clark, one of the organisers of the advertisers and a member of the editorial board of "Peace News", a pacifist publication, the "New Statesman" put out the sentence: "Soldiers will be asked to consider refusing postings to Northern Ireland, staging sit-downs and demonstrations in barracks and in the final resort, desertion". Another reference to dissuading young people from joining the British Army, was also deleted from the advertisement, Mr. Clark said.

Looking out the group's historical view of the present conflict, the advertisement points out that while Catholics and Protestants are in sharp conflict, at grass roots level, both communities make similar demands.

Outside force

"Not only does the use of troops keep them apart physically, but the presence of the British Army invites each to seek the intervention of an outside force to overrule the other".

Later, the advertisement states that a forced reunification against the wishes of Protestants would be neither just nor viable and it goes on to say: "But a continuation of the political union with Britain is, we suggest, also neither desirable nor practicable."

"It can be argued that this would be depriving the Protestant community of its rights, but these rights are not absolute, nor are there ever an unlimited number of choices". The British people also have the possibility of saying they did not wish the political union with Northern Ireland.

The advertisement continues: "The withdrawal of Britain would open the way for the rights and aspirations the Protestant community to be judged on their own merits in Ireland".

Subject state

"No doubt there are those in Britain who would prefer to see Northern Ireland politically autonomous but economically tied to Britain as the Irish Republic now is, and who hope that the entry of Britain and the Irish Republic into the E.E.C. will prepare the way for this. We oppose this kind of 'solution' because it would confirm Ireland's status as a client state of British capitalism."

English support

Concluding, the signatories assert: "In the Irish rebellion of 1798, the United Irishmen had the support of English radicals who denounced the repression of Irish people and urged 'English soldiers to refuse to take part in it'. Something like this was needed in Britain today the advertisement said."

"We, the undersigned, now demand in relation to Northern Ireland: (A) that the British government name a definite date for the complete withdrawal of British troops in the immediate future; (B) that the union between Britain and Northern Ireland be ended."

"In furthering these aims, we, the undersigned, intend to campaign among British civilians and soldiers, our friends in Germany and elsewhere will be encouraged to leaflet British soldiers stationed there."

"Leafleting and demonstrations will also be organised at recruiting centres. The campaign among civilians will aim to provide information and gain support for the policy of British withdrawal from Northern Ireland."

Crossman's solution

Adding weight to the protest movement, Mr. Richard Crossman, the Labour spokesman in a radio interview, said Britain's only way out of an increasingly hopeless situation would be to set a 'time limit' for the withdrawal of the British army — anything from a year to 18 months.

Mr. Crossman's "time limit" solution is now regarded much more seriously than when he first uncovered it in the columns of the "New Statesman" which he formerly edited. His proposal coinciding with the growing feeling on all sides at Westminster that if the constitutional proposals including a power sharing Assembly and a Council of Ireland are rejected by a substantial majority at the North's election, Britain may be forced into a complete and drastic overhaul of its existing policies in Ireland.

Mr. Crossman believes that if Britain's present constitutional proposals are rejected, the decision "colonial type" direct rule by Britain in Northern Ireland could not go on. The alternative, he says, is to fix a time limit for withdrawal.

"Extremely generous terms" could be offered to both parts of Ireland, he suggests, as Britain would not be concerned about saving money in its withdrawal from Ireland.

Lack of appreciation

The chorus is taken up by the Defence Correspondent of "The Times", London, a bastion of Toryism. The correspondent, Mr. Henry Stanhope, in a B.B.C. radio broadcast, said it was believed by British soldiers in the North that it was time the people in the North co-operated by doing something to help themselves.

The inference was that the soldiers were fed up. They were complaining, according to Mr. Stanhope, of the lack of appreciation of their services to the people of Ireland (over the centuries, an ungrateful lot), or, in fact, some hostility.

This, the British public was told discreetly, was led to an increasing number of soldiers seeking to end their engagements by buying themselves out of the Crown forces.

British army authorities told Mr. Stanhope that they were not worried at present about the state of the morale of the troops but that it would have to be watched carefully. This shows that, in fact, they are very worried, indeed. The graph, showing a steady decline in recruiting, tells its own tale to all but the most obtuse.

PREPARING TO SCUTTLE?

THE IDEA that the war in the Six Counties represented a great religious conflict — that no Protestants and Catholics could get on together — was nonsense, Mr. William Whitelaw, Westminster's Gauleiter in Belfast, told a B.B.C. television interviewer the other day.

The diametrically opposite viewpoint was expressed only a few months ago (March 25, in Washington) by the same Willie Whitelaw when he was trying to explain away his government's Irish policies to the American public.

His remarks — that if British troops were to be withdrawn from the Six Counties there would be a bloodbath as Protestants attacked Catholics — hurt deeply at least one listener, Rev. Dr. Ian Paisley, who described them as a slander on the Protestant people. Dr. Paisley demanded a retraction and an apology and one interpretation of the B.B.C. remarks would be just that.

However, it is unlikely that Willie Whitelaw cares very much whether Ian Paisley is hurt, upset or even scandalised by his remarks, because Ian Paisley is not regarded at present as a vital figure in the power politics game of north-east Ireland. Whitelaw is backing those political elements which are not being harassed by police and troops: those which are being so harassed are regarded as not politically reliable and very expendable.

What then, is at the back of Whitelaw's remarks? There seems only one explanation, apart from sheer bungling and that is that Heath and his men have decided already to withdraw their troops, that they cannot win the military war, that they want to prepare the British public and public opinion abroad for the withdrawal policy.

The remarks, of course, also are aimed at helping the so-called "moderates" in the Belfast assembly poll: the success of the so-called "loyalist" coalition is Whitelaw's constant nightmare, to be avoided at all costs.

Who will win peace?

Westminster never has done anything without preparing for it well in advance. The British are now prepared to scuttle from the North but this does not mean that they have abandoned hope yet of winning the peace, of holding on economically to their investments in all parts of Ireland, and retaining their domination of the Irish market.

Is Whitelaw's plan to give his vague "Council of Ireland" more power than anybody dreamed? And have that power backed, perhaps, by N.A.T.O. or United Nations troops? Aided by Cosgrave's Gardai and soldiers?

It is well to visualise even the most fantastic of the possibilities and prepare to react intelligently to them but the opportunity should not be lost to show how great a liar Whitelaw is and how shameless a liar.

Publicity given to such British wriggling and deceit will help to reduce even further Britain's credibility regarding Irish affairs.

'The collateral is OK, Mr. O Broin — but are you sure your family needs a six-pound roast of beef?

The handgrip of collaboration: the London envoy of the Dublin Government, Donald O'Sullivan, shakes hands with Willie Whitelaw on the occasion of the day talks between the gauleiter and Dr. Fitzgerald.



I.R.A. ROAD CHECKS AT BORDER

UNITS of Oglaiha na hEireann have been manning road checks along the Border in an exercise intended to clamp down on cross-Border raids by the British Army and to prevent the passage of British spies.

During the past fortnight, units of up to 20 men have carried out such checks in the Crossmaglen area and were at times within two miles of the headquarters of the Paratroopers stationed in the R.U.C. barracks in Crossmaglen.

Drivers of cars stopped and questioned asserted that at all times they had been treated with courtesy. This was more than they could say of British Army road blocks.

In an operation by Oglaiha na hEireann in Derry three soldiers were seriously injured; one of them, a sergeant major, losing both legs.

The casualties were inflicted on a foot patrol provided by the Light Air Defence Regiment searching houses in the Brandywell area of the city.

Earlier, a soldier had been hit by a sniper at a British checkpoint in Abercorn Road.

The British army camp in the Creggan area was attacked, as was a British mobile patrol in Dunganannon.

In Enniskillen, a R.U.C. man was shot dead by a sniper while on patrol near East Bridge. He was the 38th fatal casualty suffered by the R.U.C. since 1969.

Airport attack

There were several bombing attacks in Belfast and Aldergrove Airport was the scene of a rocket attack. Britain has admitted she cannot provide sufficient troops to defend the airport properly.

Two soldiers were wounded in the city by snipers. Six soldiers were slightly injured in Derry after an anti-internal march attended by a large crowd.

The British Under-Secretary for Defence, Mr. Peter Blaker, in answer to a question in the Commons on May 22, disclosed that 184 British troops of the regular army and 36 members of the Ulster Defence Regiment (which is incorporated into the British Army) had been killed by hostile action in the North since August, 1969.

The Unionist M.P., Stanley McMaster, asked for details of the number of casualties caused by the O.N.E. or for which they claimed responsibility, but was told that records were not kept by the British Government of such claims.

McMaster complained that the British Army was being prevented from directing its entire efforts towards "restoring security in Northern Ireland and defeating the I.R.A."

M.P. rebuked

Mr. Blaker replied that it was

From our correspondent in CROSSMAGLEN

reasonable to assume that most of the casualties had been caused by the O.N.E. but added: "as far as concentrating our efforts are concerned, I would remind you that it is the task of the security forces to deal with terrorism from whatever direction it comes."

"Every time there is any resort to violence from other quarters this distracts the army from the tasks of dealing with the I.R.A."

Was this meant to be an oblique reprimand to the honourable members of the U.D.A.? Mr. Whitlaw still regards the U.D.A. as a lawful association as members terrorise and murder and defend, non-political Catholics.

On May 23, the Under-Secretary of State for Defence revealed that 499 men had resigned from the U.D.R. between January and May, 1973, and that 364 had been discharged.

Against this, only 406 recruits had been admitted to the Force in the same period.

This information was given in reply to a question by the Armagh Unionist M.P. Jack Maginnis. It was added that those discharged were dismissed from the Force for various reasons including failure to fulfil their training programme, failing to meet medical standards, convictions in the courts, and services no longer required."

Whose morale?

Of those who resigned, 22 were Catholics, from which it follows that over 840 Unionist-Orange supporters of British rule in the North have either resigned or been dismissed from the U.D.R. within the short period of four and a half months.

Meanwhile, in Britain itself the Ministry of Defence disclosed on May 15 that recruitment to the British Army had dropped by 25 per cent during the past year, in comparison with recruitment figures for 1971-72.

Whose morale is beginning to crack?

SOLDIER'S WIVES DEMAND PROTECTION

The wives of 26 Counties soldiers were on the March in Dublin the other day to demand protection for their homes and property.

The women, who live at the married quarters at Arbour Hill Barracks, marched to the G.H.Q. Infirmary Road, to complain about the conditions at the barracks.

Said one of the women: "We are sick and tired of having to put up with gangs of teenagers breaking windows, smashing doors and entering houses. The Army should protect us."

Six months ago women at Arbour Hill made a protest about the behaviour of youths during a wave of vandalism.

* Gardaí are too busy - harassing Republicans - to have time for other duties.



THE LIBYAN leader, Col. Muammar Ghaddafi has assailed the United States in a public speech and announced the nationalisation of the American-owned Bunker Hunt Oil Company.

He was addressing a rally at the Martyrs Square in Tripoli, marking the third anniversary of the evacuation of American forces from the giant Wheelus Air Force Base.

"American policy will cause a disaster to American interests in the (Middle East) region," he said. The 32-year-old leader claimed the U.S. policy in the Middle East was characterised by "arrogance and bias."

"The time has come for us to deal America a strong slap on its cool, arrogant face. It is high time the Arabs took serious steps to undermine American interests in our region," said Col. Ghaddafi.

"The nationalisation of Bunker Hunt, which produces 150,000 barrels of crude oil daily, is being done mainly as an act of revenge against the U.S. support of Israel against the Arabs, he stated.

Bunker Hunt owns half of the Saris oilfield in Libya. The other half was owned by British Petroleum (B.P.), which was nationalised in December, 1971.

Egypt and Libya are to merge into one state on September 1. * While Libya liberates herself from the grip of monopoly capitalism, Ireland wallows deeper in the mire, thanks to the leadership of the Gauleiter Whitlaw and his vichy-like collaborators in Belfast, Derry and Dublin.



A member of Oglaiha na hEireann stands guard over a Derry school to protect the children against the Brits and their cowardly allies.

Surrendered to avoid civilian casualties

FOUR Belfast men who surrendered to the R.U.C. to avoid possible civilian casualties which might have resulted from a shoot-out were jailed for a total of 31 years at the City Commission, Belfast, recently.

They were Eugene Fanning, nine years; Joseph Barnes and Gerard Burns, eight years; and Robert McCullough, six years. They refused to recognise the court.

An 18-year-old Tyrone youth was jailed for six years at Tyrone Assizes when found guilty of charges relating to the alleged blowing up of Strabane Golf Club clubhouse last year.

He was Sean Patton, of Beccigrove, Derry Road.

Two Dunganannon men were also jailed at the Assizes, on charges relating to alleged membership of the I.R.A. and explosives charges.

They were John Kern, who got seven years, and Charles McMenemy, who was jailed for three years. Both men are from New Well Road, Dunganannon.

Punched by warders

A teenager was sentenced to five years imprisonment at Belfast City Commission on charges of possession of a pistol and two rounds of ammunition.

He was Paul Kavanagh (aged 18), Cavendish Street, Belfast, and he was held in custody since his arrest last April.

He refused to recognise the court and was punched and dragged to his feet by prison warders when he refused to stand as the charges were read out.

In a speech from the dock he told Judge McGonigal that "as a Republican I refuse to recognise the jurisdiction of a court imposed on my country by the armed might of her old enemy, Britain."

At the Belfast Recorder's Court, a young Belfastman was sentenced to jail for three years because he was stated to be a member of the I.R.A.

James Storey (20), Riverdale Park, South, refused to recognise the court and said that British courts did not have and never would have the right to jail Irishmen whose only crime was that they defied their country when she was in the grips of a foreign power.

Injustice exposed

At the Belfast City Commission, an 18-year-old "loyalist", Raymond Bingham, was jailed for 18 months for

alleged illegal possession of two guns on January 3 last.

The presiding judge was Mr. Justice Kelly, who earlier had sentenced a 17-year-old Republican to six years jail for illegal possession of one firearm.

Was this justice or was Bingham another of the handful of "loyalists" who occasionally get light sentences in order to give the appearance of justice to a blatantly rigged legal system?

Another example of the crooked way in which injustice is administered under Whitlaw is the case of where a Lisburn man, Robert Sheppard, was given a suspended, minimum sentence at the local magistrate's court recently.

He had been charged with beating up a 13-year-old boy and breaking the boy's nose because the youth had said he was a Catholic.

Sheppard had stopped the boy, asked him his name and, on being told the name, demanded if it was a Catholic one.

When the boy said it was, Sheppard assaulted him and shouted at him on the ground that he "didn't like Catholics".

The magistrate told Sheppard it was really "a very brave act".

Packed jury?

William Francis Meehan (23), New Inn, Co. Tipperary and Eugene Reid, Armagh, have been remanded again on arms charges and charges relating to an ambush in which two R.U.C. men were killed.

One jury has failed already to convict them but the next one will probably be more carefully packed.

In Belfast, Robert Craig, was sentenced to six years imprisonment on arms charges.

David Wilson was sentenced to 12 years imprisonment, allegedly for driving the car used by the squad of Oglaiha who executed the British spies in the Four Square Laundry case.

An Andersonstown man, Michael McMullen, has been remanded in custody, charged with shooting a British soldier last March.

Michael Flynn, also from Andersonstown, was accused of attempting to kill two British soldiers a few weeks ago.

Two young Ardoyne women were remanded on explosives charges to Belfast Recorder's Court. They are Rosemary McGuigan (20) and Rosemary Hamill (19). They refused to recognise the court.

There were many more cases: don't forget the prisoners or those on remand. Support An Cumann Cabhrach and The Green Cross.

Not religious war in North?

VERY Reverend Dr. Stephen Harte, Administrator of the Catholic Cathedral, in Cork, has denied that the strife in the Six Counties is a religious war.

British propaganda had noised it abroad that it was a religious war, he said. It would suit them to have it considered thus - for in that case they could shed all responsibility for it. But it was not a religious war.

"Quite clearly what we have is a struggle between peoples of different culture and race for political power", said Dr. Harte.

WHY LEARN IRISH?

"... Unless we have faith in the persistence of our self, our feeling of identity is threatened and we become dependent on other people whose approval then becomes the basis for our feeling of identity..."

— Erich Fromm, "The Art of Loving".



Portrait of a super-bugger

BILL COTTER reports
from New York

THE FIRST Connolly-Larkin commemoration since 1958 was held May 24 in the auditorium of the Robert F. Wagner High School in New York City. Such meetings were an annual event in the Irish community during the 1940's, when they were supported by prominent leaders of the Transport Workers Union as well as other labour figures.

The tradition, broken during the period of McCarthyism, was renewed by some organisers and a cke of former Connolly-Larkin meetings.

The chairman, Tom Cox of Roscommon, is well known as one of the main movers in previous commemorations and took the chair for the second time this year.

The official organiser, myself, a Kerryman, am a veteran Republican and a long-time supporter of the Connolly-Larkin commemorations.

The master of ceremonies was Maurice Saunders, vice-chairman of the Irish Anti-Internment Coalition. Many life-long Irish and Irish-American socialists attended this year's event.

Young Irish and Irish-American socialists played a prominent role. One of the two speakers, Gerry Foley, a writer for the socialist weekly "Intercontinental Press", stressed the lessons of Larkin's life for the present generation of socialists, pointing to Larkin's opposition to imperialist war and his dedication to an international socialist revolution.

He said that Larkin's ideals were expressed in the fight of the Vietnamese people for national liberation and socialism and that the ideals of the revolutionary workers' movement of Larkin's time were beginning to revive in the West, as shown by the French general strike of 1968 and the Irish labour protests against the Bloody Sunday massacre.

Foley argued that Larkin's basic principles still point the only way forward in the fight for a truly free and united Ireland — no trust in capitalist politicians or rich benefactors; educate and organise the working people to take direct control of society and their own fate.

The other speaker, Dr. Joseph O'Brien, a young history professor from Cork, summarized the career of James Connolly as a dedicated socialist.

He explained that Connolly had been made into a nationalist saint and that his revolutionary socialist principles had been hidden.

Connolly, he stressed, was not a romantic rhetorician but a scientific socialist. The leader of the Irish Citizen Army analysed the Irish fight for independence

and explained that it was impossible to get a really free Ireland without overthrowing the capitalist system that subordinated the country to England.

O'Brien, like Foley, stressed that the two fathers of Irish trade-unionism looked to an Irish revolution to set the example for an international revolution to overthrow imperialism and capitalism.

The Irish-born professor

pointed out in detail how the present-day society in Ireland fell far short of the ideals of Connolly.

Both speakers, but Foley in particular, stressed that Connolly and Larkin had been persecuted by the American government.

Frank Durkan, one of the defence lawyers for the Fort

Worth Five, described the persecution of these five supporters of Irish freedom who have been jailed in Texas, 1,500 miles from their homes, for refusing to answer the questions of a grand jury investigating Irish organisations in the United States.

The youngest participant in the programme was probably the singer, Janice Gordon, from Los Angeles, a young American who sang some songs about Connolly in a convincing Irish accent.

TRADE UNION VIEW

Banba Review Editorial Reproduced

Dublin the protection to which, under the same law, they are as entitled as the First Citizen of the land?

This journal has, on more than one occasion, drawn attention to this very serious problem for the members of the Union, yet nothing has been done to safeguard them. Dublin businessmen, also subjected to the same type of treatment from those whom they stay up late to serve have withdrawn their labour in protest and in many cases have had Garda protection on late night runs to certain suburbs where hooliganism is rampant. Must our members be driven to this resort in their quest for justice?

Politicians have been very voluble in recent times about Law and Order but the law and order they have in mind is that appertaining to so-called subversive organisations which may constitute a threat to their own security in Government. Surely in the matter of law and order as it affects the ordinary individual citizen going about his normal business, the State should cherish all its children equally and ensure that innocent workers are not murdered in their places of employment while serving the public.

A judgment handed down from the bench some time ago brought with it the enjoiner from the learned Judge that the onus fell on bar staff to clear licensed premises at closing time. In all other spheres of activity, the man at the top takes the responsibility and, in this case the man at the top is the publican himself and not the barman or manager.

At any sporting fixture, particularly football or hurling matches, one can see hundreds of Garda "policing" the pitch from the sideline. In some Dublin pubs one can find bigger crowds, particularly at week-ends, than at some of these games and it is only when the victim of an assault by thugs is on a hospital operating table that the Gardaí will go to investigate. It should also be remembered that while the barman are in the front line when such attacks are being made, a variety of ready-made weapons in the form of tumblers, heavy glass ash trays and bar stools are laid out for the assailants.

"One wonders whether Dublin's publicans should be induced, like the motorist, to compulsorily insure their staffs against personal injury or death at the hands of customers. If they are required to do so, perhaps a measure of protection would be provided for our members and thus prevent a recurrence of what happened in O'Connell Street on April 28 last".

TEN, IN CYPRUS NOW, IN IRELAND

"British soldiers stopped farm trucks on their way to market and dumped the vegetables and fruit into the roads.

Their private homes were invaded, and males over 14 were taken away to detention camps, where they were held for weeks and even months without charge or trial. By their brutality and stupidity the so called security forces drove the people straight into our arms."

DERRY PRISONERS DEPENDANTS FUND. (AN CUMANN CABRACH)

- * Now pays out £320.00 per week.
- * To relatives of our imprisoned men and girls.
- * We need your help now, to continue our work.
- * Support all our functions.
- * Give a donation, however small, to any member of Sinn Féin. You will be given an official receipt, and our grateful thanks.



Is é Dónall O Dubhda an próbaire agus i bhFaiche Stiefa, Baile Atha Cliath, a bhí sé ag seinn agus An Fhleá Nua ar siúl. Trodaire ar son na saoirse ab é Dónall in éadan na Sasanach i 1916 agus ina dhiaidh sin. Gaeilgeoir atá ann lena chois, bail ó Dhia air.

Ballyfinagle thrilled

LADY Belinda Poundfoot, D.B.E., has presented a portrait in oils of Princess Margaret to the Ballyfinagle Branch of the Catholic Boys Scouts of Ireland. Lady Belinda was visiting the city to receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Economics from University College, Ballyfinagle. Addressing local boy scouts after the presentation, Lady Belinda reminded them of their duty to be loyal to both queen and government. She continued: "A good scout does not laugh at cartoons making fun of Mr. Heath who is a very nice man and is fond of dummies and pussy cats. Also, boys, when your scoutmaster tells you what a wonderful job the British army is doing in the north of this country you mustn't make sarcastic remarks, as I am told, some of you sometimes do. That sort of behaviour is not nice and you wouldn't get away with it if you were in any other part of Britain".

Lady Belinda is chief shareholder of Poundfoot and Squarebottom Ltd., makers of Ballyfinagle's legendary liquor, Red Biddy.

The noted theologian and hymn-writer, the Rev. Cambresis McTouris, B.F., has issued a strong, moral condemnation of the action of a group of Irish speakers resident in the Baile Bocht Gaeltacht, 12 miles west of Ballyfinagle. They have petitioned the Bishop of Ballyfinagle to allow a Mass in Irish one Sunday in the month in one of the six churches in the area.

In a letter to the "Ballyfinagle Vindicator", Father McTouris says: "It is morally wrong and contrary to

the teaching of the Church to have Mass celebrated in Irish in any place where there is even the remotest possibility that an English visitor might be present.

"So-called patriots who make suggestions like these place themselves in the same position as those who oppose the British White or Green or whatever papers, namely, outside the pale of civilised norms of conduct.

"It is a pity that the old custom of instant ex-communication has fallen into disuse, and I intend to urge His Lordship to revive it in view of the way the inhabitants of Ballybought are conducting themselves".

University College, Ballyfinagle, has made the following additions to staff: Professor of Laws: Dr. Cedric Pigglewick. Dr. Pigglewick was born in Hogs Noggin, Buckinghamshire, in 1927, and was educated at Eton and Oxford. He has written a number of books including "The Traitor Casement".

Assistant Lecturer, Department of Spelling: Dr. Howard Hamstermouse. Dr. Hamstermouse was born in Bristol in 1932 and educated at Rugby and Cambridge. He has written several books, including "Harold Wilson, Statesman and Genius".

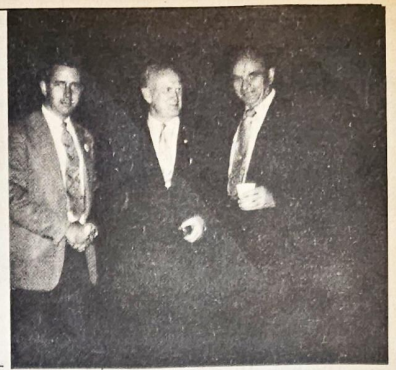
Assistant Janitor, Staff Residence: Dr. Michael O'Rourke. Dr. O'Rourke was born in Ballyfinagle and educated at the local Christian Brothers school. He graduated (with honours) from U.C.D. in Mathematics, Philosophy and Economics and obtained a doctorate from T.C.D. last year for research in soil chemistry.



Our American Friends

WITH THESE PHOTOS came another \$500 for the Prisoners Dependents.

Our American friends never let us down and they are also helping to win the fight against the British invaders.



Cage 4, Long Kesh,
Lisburn,
Ireland.

17th June 1973.

Hut 31, Cage Four,
Long Kesh Camp.

June 17th 1973.

Two letters from LONG KESH

A Chara,

At this time the Prison system operating in Ireland is coming under scrutiny by the Council of Europe.

We, the Internees of Long Kesh, welcome this as the points they mention should be granted on humanitarian grounds alone. Apparently the points that are causing most concern are: Medical Services, Co-tacts with the outside world, Vocational Training, Education, Food, Suitable accommodation and finally the Psychological effects of modern penal servitude.

These amenities will be explained in a booklet and will be protected with no less than ninety four rules.

I would like to state that, We the Internees of Long Kesh, after a period of 22 months internment have never been issued with a precise set of Rules regarding our rights.

This leaves negotiations for conditions (as mentioned by the Council of Europe) between the Camp Council and Governor Truesdale very much on the side of the Governor. At present the amenities that are causing most concern with the Council of Europe are little or non-existent behind the wire of Long Kesh.

Of course, a very important factor that needs mentioning is that we are not guilty of any crime. We have not been charged, given a trial or been convicted. That leads us to believe that these amenities within internment should be rights and recognised as such.

At present the most important deprivation is that of our weekly one hour visit. We have been denied this for a period of 14 weeks. An interesting point regarding this is that the Governor reached agreement with the Internees Camp Council and the visits should have recommenced. However, when the results of the meeting were referred to one of Whitelaw's intransigent Ministers he over-ruled the Camp Governor's decision and insisted that we undergo a degrading shoe, boot, sandal search. In conclusion I say that when the Council of Europe publishes its book of rules for sentenced prisoners - I hope her member countries abide by them - she will send the Internees a copy and we can then compare England's Rules for Irishmen held without charge, trial or sentence.

Signed on behalf of the internees,
SAMUEL HYLAND.
P.O. Comhairle Ceantair Sinn Féin

A Chara,

Now that the furore over the Local Government Elections is dying, and before the slow-motion action re-play begins for the Assembly Elections, perhaps you would allow me space in your paper to speak for some 460 odd men who have no suffrage, no legalised party, and therefore no interest in the political frolics of this past month or so.

It is a fact though, quite well known, that there is at this moment in time, here, in an airfield, just twelve miles away from the homes of the majority of them, these 460 men, living in accommodation not passed by any housing executive, or acceptable by any standards of hygiene. It is also a fact that, we were used by a great diversification of politicians during the elections albeit to further many ends and ambitions, not connected with us or our situation. During all the many statements issued by the parties, the many articles written to, and in, the press not one of these people mentioned the fact that we here have been separated from our families for the past thirteen weeks, unable to see them because of some misbegotten edict from the man who set up the polls and the elections, William Whitelaw. We are unfortunately not newsworthy enough on that score to warrant help from either the press or the politicians. The ordeal of going without visits is a hard task for the men here, but it is twice as hard for our people, all they can do is make up a parcel, write a letter, and hope that all goes well - a sorry position for the many hundreds of families thus affected - and a sorry position for the administration of this camp and the over-lord of same, Robert Truesdale!

The men here have not, and will not, accept the fact that footwear must be removed to have a thirty minute conversation with our people... we feel that the restrictions imposed already are more than sufficient. After all, our visitors are searched coming in, and we ourselves are searched going to and coming from each visit. Because the security forces at the camp claim to have caught some mail leaving the camp, it does not warrant collective punishment, and that is the only way we can judge the last demand from Truesdale. It is unfair, undemocratic, and completely unwarranted. No matter how many times we approach the authorities with ideas of conciliation on this point we are rebuffed - out of hand - as if it was a trifling unimportant matter. Aside from our freedom, to us, it is the most important item on any agenda...political or otherwise...and we are at a loss to see and understand why it has been permitted to stretch on for such a long time. Whitelaw has said he is sincere and these things...if he feels thus then may I recommend that he visit the CCDC and have a talk with the people who go there with their parcels, hoping daily to hear word that the visits to Long Kesh are on again. I cannot guarantee that they will talk to him, but I can guarantee that if he is human, in any sense of the word, he will desist from this harsh line and give us our demands....

Is mise,
Seamus Loughran.

PRESS FUND

The result of meetings held between the editorial board of An Phoblacht and Republican News; a co-ordinating committee has been established and the following objectives have been agreed upon:

1. Complete co-operation in distribution, circulation and sales.
2. The provision of a comprehensive day to day news service.
3. Interchangeability of the editorial and reporting staffs.
4. The immediate launching of a printing plant and premises fund.

Send your subscription to:-

"PRESS FUND"
44 Parnell Square,
Dublin 1.

Get The Message



Full Military Honours Vol. Tony Aherne

A Cara,

I have been requested by the Leadership of the Republican Movement in Cork to inform you that full Military Honours have been paid to the late Vol. Tony Aherne at his graveside by his Comrades of Cork No. 1 Brigade.

The Cork Examiner and Cork Evening Echo refused to publish a statement on this which was sent to them.

Is Mise,
le Mor Meas,
W.H.



Róisín McLaughlin's son Roman
WILL HIS MOTHER BE EXTRADITED TO BRITISH TORTURE?

SYMPATHY

The James Daly Cumainn, Tyrrellspass, wishes to extend their sympathy to Tom Munroe, Cloneyheigue, Ballynagore, Tyrrellspass, on the death of his brother, Christy.

DEMAND RELEASE OF ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS