

AN
PHOBLACHT
Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING
POLITICAL WEEKLY



Sraith Nua 1ml 6 Uimhir 37 Deardain Mean Fomhair 20 Thurs 20th Sept 1984 (Britain 30p) Price 25p

Loyalists in Dublin

DUBLIN was shaken this week by two loyalist visitations in 24 hours which painted a stark political message for the Free State authorities.

On Tuesday night, loyalist fans, in Dublin for the Glasgow Rangers versus Bohemians match, raised sectarian war-cries and went on a rampage which stretched from Dublin to Dundalk. Unable to disarm them, the gardai 'escorted' several bus-loads northwards allowing towns and villages en route to be attacked.

It was just a taste of what the nationalist people of the North have to live with every day. Not just in John Hume's 'marching season', but at any time of the year, nationalist areas are likely to come under vicious attacks from the same brand of hooligans.

Moreover, and most importantly, the same and worse sectarian violence comes from similar

thugs dressed in the uniforms of the RUC and UDR — and often, indeed, of Britain's Scottish regiments.

It is a stark reality which both Free State politicians and media, for all their cries of outrage this week, close their eyes to.

In the same way, the visit of Ian Paisley to Dublin on Wednesday was brushed aside as 'irrel-

evant' and a 'mere publicity stunt' by the same politicians and media.

TAUNTED

At an EEC meeting in Dublin Castle, presided over by Free State Foreign Affairs Minister Peter Barry, Ian Paisley, the representative, whether Dublin likes to acknowledge it or not, of over 230,000 loyalist voters, taunted the Dublin politicians with the contradictions of their pretended concern about plastic bullets whilst themselves stockpiling rubber ones.

Small wonder that they attempt to close their eyes to these unpalatable realities as well.

Yet Peter Barry insists that he and his colleagues have a right

to represent the nationalist people of the North — dismissing the chosen representatives after successive elections on the nationalist side as well, it would appear.

Refusing to confront the unacceptable reality of loyalism, whether dressed up in the form of sectarian thuggery or political

buffoonery, may well suit the strategy of Free State politicians in their post-Forum plans to contain Ireland's British problem within the North. But they need not add insult to injury by pretending that they have the interests of the North's nationalists at heart.



WAR NEWS..WAR NEWS

Crossmaglen culvert bomb

BRITISH TROOPS narrowly escaped death when only part of a large culvert bomb detonated as they passed over it early on Thursday morning, September 13th, about two miles from Crossmaglen, at Drumlougher. The remainder of the bomb took Brit explosives experts two days to clear.

Later on Thursday, at about 9pm, Volunteers of Derry Brigade ambushed members of an RUC patrol at the junction of Greenham Road and Culmore Road in Shantallow. Twenty shots were fired at the patrol from an automatic weapon. None of the crown



● The Mill Street premises in Newry which were severely damaged by an IRA bomb on Monday, September 17th

forces were hit and all of the IRA Volunteers returned safely to base.

DERRY TELECOM ATTACK

In the early hours of Monday morning, September 17th, three IRA explosives experts, supported by four armed Volunteers, successfully penetrated the high security surrounding British Telecom's Derry headquarters at the

Altnagelvin industrial estate in the Waterside.

After cutting their way through the perimeter fence and carefully camouflaging their entrance point, the Volunteers entered the well-lit yard where, for the next two hours, they wired together the petrol tanks of 30 Telecom vans. A firing set was then placed in position designed to detonate all 30 petrol tanks at the same time.

At one point a mobile RUC

patrol arrived on the scene but failed to spot the Volunteers who continued to work on. Having completed their tasks, the engineers and armed Volunteers then withdrew back through the breach in the fence they had made earlier. Shortly afterwards, a security man spotted the device and alerted the Brits. The industrial estate was then sealed off with all factories brought to a standstill, while Brit engineers then took almost ten hours to defuse the device.

NEWRY EXPLOSIONS

On Monday night, Volunteers from the South Down Brigade placed two grille bombs at commercial premises in Newry. The two bombs were planted at Kelly's outfitters, both in Mill Street.

A warning was given and the area cleared before the bombs exploded about 11pm. Both premises were severely damaged while other shops in the immediate area suffered blast damage.

Sinn Féin candidates for Udaras

BY MÁIRE DE BARRA

TÁ SOCRAITHE ag Sinn Féin dul san iomaíocht sna toghcháin d'Udaras na Gaeltachta. Beidh iarrthóir amháin ag Sinn Féin i ngach toghlach.

Bhí sé i gceist go dtabharfaí isteach na páipéir ainmníocháin ar an Dardaoin an fichiú lá de Mheán Fómhair. Beidh an toghchán ar siúl ar an gCéadaoin an seachtú lá déag de Dheireadh Fómhair.

Seo a leanas na hiarrthóirí: Breandán Ó Raghallaigh i dTír Chonaill, Caoimhín Mac Cathmhaoil i gConnacht/Contae na Mí, agus Irial Mac Murchadha sa Mhumhain.

Cuireadh Udaras na Gaeltachta ar bun i 1979 ag rialtas Bhaile Átha Cliath agus bíonn toghcháin ann chuige, gach ceathair nó cúig de blianta. Siad leathnú agus caomhnú na Gaeilge chomh maith le bunú

tionscail sna ceantair Ghaeltachta, aithmeanna luaithe an Udarais.

Níl Udaras na Gaeltachta in ann freastal ar riachtanaisí phobail na nGaeltachtaí agus beidh iarrthóirí Shinn Féin á léiriú sin i rith an fheachtais don toghchán. Cé go dtoghtar seachtar ball den Udaras go daonlathach (triúr i dTír Chonaill, beirt i gConnacht/Contae na Mí agus beirt sa Mhumhain), ainmníonn an rialtas an seisear eile.

DÍCHEALL

Ní hamháin sin ach tá na cumhachtaí atá acu chomh lag sin nach féidir leo réiteach a fháil ar mhór-fhadhbanna na nGaeltachtaí.

Bíonn an baol i gcónaí ann go gcuirfidh an rialtas i dTeach Laighean stop le haon iarracht maith chun feabhas a chur ar chúrsaí.

Déanfaidh iarrthóirí Shinn Féin a míle dícheall má thoghtar iad chun an méid agus is féidir ar leas an phobail a bhaint as an struchtúr atá ann. Iarrfaidh siad freisin go mbunófar struchtúr neamhspleách agus daonlathach le cumhacht, chun gur féidir aghaidh a thabhairt ar an fadhbanna is gá a réiteach chun go mairfidh na Gaeltachtaí.

SINN FÉIN has decided to contest the forthcoming Udaras na Gaeltachta elections on the basis of fielding a candidate in each constituency.

On Thursday, September 20th, all candidates were due to lodge their nomination papers and polling is on Wednesday, October 17th. The candidates are: in Donegal, Breandán Ó Raghallaigh, in Connacht/Meath, Caoimhín Mac Cathmhaoil; and in Munster, Irial Mac Murchadha.

Udaras na Gaeltachta is a body which was set up by the Dublin government in

1979 and elections to it are held ever four to five years. Its stated aims are the extension and preservation of the Irish language and the setting up of industries in the Gaeltacht areas.

As the Sinn Féin candidates will be highlighting throughout the campaign, the Udaras itself is totally inadequate for the needs of Gaeltacht people. Although seven of its members are

elected democratically (3 from Donegal, 2 in Connacht/Meath and 2 in Munster), the other six members which make up An Udaras are government appointees.

Along with this, its local government type powers are so limited that it is unable to tackle the real problems of the Gaeltachta and always runs the risk of being hampered by the government of the day.

Sinn Féin candidates, if elected to An Udaras, are committed to making as many gains for the Gaeltachta as is possible from the existing structure. They will also campaign for the establishment of an independent and truly representative body with the power to implement realistic policies essential to the survival of the Gaeltachtaí.

Election fund

SINN FEIN urgently requires funds to assist its Udaras na Gaeltachta election campaign. Donations will be gratefully accepted and receipted and may be sent to: Ard Oifig Shinn Féin, 44 Cearnóg Pharnell, B.A.C.

LENAR n-iarrthóirí a chur san iomaíocht agus ár bhfeachtas a chur ar bun ins na ceantachta Gaeltachta beidh airgead de dhíth go mór orainn. Bheimis fúir bhuíoch d'aoine a chuirfeadh síntús, pé chomh beag, chuiginn go: Ard Oifig Shinn Féin, 44 Cearnóg Pharnell, B.A.C. Seolfar admháil chuig gach síntiúis.

LOYALISTS SUSPEND FAST

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

THE loyalist hunger-strike in Derry's Magilligan Prison which had entered its 30th day on Tuesday, September 18th, and which called for segregation between loyalist and republican prisoners, was conditionally 'suspended' around tea-time on Tuesday night, following two days of negotiations with loyalist politicians who acted as intermediaries with officials in the NIO.

After 13 hours of discussions, shutting between Magilligan and Stormont, DUP deputy leader Peter Robinson and Official Unionist John Carson announced the decision through a statement they received from the prisoners, in which they again reiterated their

one demand for segregation. They also emphasised that their initial decision to go on hunger-strike had been taken reluctantly and added that they hoped this 'suspension' would act as 'an aid to consultation'.

Reading between the lines, it



● The DUP's George Seawright and other loyalist supporters picket City Hall, Belfast

PROTESTERS ATTACK BUS

DURING LAST Saturday's protest on the loyalist Shankill Road in support of the ten Magilligan hunger-strikers, a Citybus travelling to the nationalist Ardoyne area was attacked by a mob of demonstrators who pelted it with bricks and bottles.

The sectarian attack took place as the parade was travelling along the Crumlin Road and eleven passengers inside were injured while other pass-

engers flung themselves on the ground in terror. Typically, although the RUC were on the scene and witnessed the attack, at no stage did they intervene until the situation became extremely dangerous when several people were trailed off the bus and beaten by

appears that, for the moment at least, they have faced the fact that the Brits were being stubborn and consequently giving Robinson and Carson a more difficult time than anticipated. They probably also assessed that their pur-

poses could be better served by a 'suspension' at this point in time which strategically gives not only themselves but their politicians a welcome breathing space to reconsider the odds.

Also in their statement the prisoners pointed out:

"We realise the difficulty it places upon government when it is asked to consider problems under duress."

HARD-LINE

The Brits, it would appear, were prepared to take a hard-line attitude to the Magilligan hunger-strike, similar to their stance during the republican hunger-strike in 1981. However, while the loyalists were gaining a certain amount of support in Belfast — with a protest march last Saturday and a picket at the City Hall on Tuesday — this was limited and by no means had it gained the momentum reached by the 1981 hunger-strike in Long Kesh.

Thirty days' fasting had already begun to affect the health of at least six of the loyalists who were moved to the prison hospital. This race against the clock, in terms of failing to build public support quickly enough, could well have been another determining factor in the prisoners' decision.

While the hunger-strikers have agreed to come off their fast for a 'reasonable period' — which is believed to be two weeks — they have only agreed to a 'controlled, low intake of food such as will freeze our condition insofar as it is possible at its present level' and will not be eating full meals.

Negotiations are presently continuing, with Brit Minister for Prisons Nicholas Scott meeting Robinson and Carson on Wednesday again. Their talks are clouded in secrecy as both play their cards close to their chests. Both, however, are now very conscious of the over-present threat of the hunger-strike recommencing if their negotiations fail to produce an agreement acceptable to the prisoners.

FREE STATE PANIC AT BRIT DELAY

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

AS the date for the London-Dublin summit approaches, and with no signs that the Brits are ready or willing to make a move on the Forum report, panic is mounting in Free State government circles. Speeches, statements, TV and radio exposure, interviews to all and sundry: the Free State Premier Garret FitzGerald and his Foreign Affairs Minister Peter Barry have gone on record no less than six times in the past week, pleading with the Brits for some response to the Forum report.

Their line of argument is as clear as it is consistent, and cynical: to them, the crucial problem is that of what they call "the growing alienation of the Northern nationalist minority" — in other words, the rise of Sinn Féin as a political force and its threat to the hitherto unchallenged position of the SDLP as spokesperson for the Northern nationalist community.

So great is the Irish establishment's fear of republicans that they have already offered their bottom line to the Brits before even any hint of talks, never mind negotiations, on the Forum report. And their bottom line is that they are ready to delete Articles 2 and 3 from the Free State constitution, and increase cross-border repression — including legalised RUC and Brit incursions into the twenty-six counties, cross-border courts and laws — and all they expect in return for this is what FitzGerald accepted in a television interview last Sunday on ITV as "the least that could give the Catholic minority a sense of belonging", and "the least that could give the Catholic minority the feeling of being looked after".

REPRESENTATIVE

Northern nationalists were informed last Sunday by their self-appointed 'representative' FitzGerald that the least that would keep them quiet for another few decades was more Catholics in the RUC, cross-border tribunals and Free State involvement in the North. And Free State voters were informed by FitzGerald, the revisionist, that the wording of Articles 2 and 3 had been "accidental", and "not intended" to be interpreted as a territorial claim. That it was never intended to be taken seriously by Britain has never been in doubt, however Free State parties like Fianna Fail and to an extent Fine Gael have often survived on the fact that their membership believes in the seriousness of the territorial claim.

In the same programme, former Brit direct-ruler James Prior re-emphasised British commitment to unionists, curiously adding that this demanded "a recip-



● Barry and FitzGerald — signalling a growing sense of desperation



● The extradition of Seamus Shannon — even more collaboration is on the cards

rocal move" by the Free State. Hume called for a "framework" to be established — meaning some scheme with salaried politicians' jobs, which would ensure the SDLP's survival both financial and political. As for unionists, they had not moved an inch, and made the usual statements about 'Free State meddling in UK affairs'. OUP leader James Molyneux even advocated a return of the twenty-six counties to the 'United Kingdom'.

HOLLOW

Those predictable unionist clichés made Free State appeals ring very hollow indeed. On Wednesday, September 12th, Fine Gael Senator James Dooge had enthused about the Official Unionists' document *The Way Forward*: "There is now a common language between all sides".

"The unionists now think in more positive terms", echoed Peter Barry last Saturday. To Northern nationalist ears, it sounds just as bigoted and vengeful and intransigent as it has always done.

But are those appeals to unionists

really addressed to them, or rather to the Northern nationalist community, as if the Free State government was trying to convince them that it is doing its best and working hard on their behalf? On Thursday, September 13th, as the unionist *Newsletter* was going tabloid, it invited FitzGerald to make a contribution. Pompously entitled 'My Advice to Unionists', the piece yet again pleads for some move — any move — otherwise "the terrorists will try to bomb their way back to the centre stage". The *News* letter editorial alongside FitzGerald's piece does not mince its words: "Fear of the rise of Sinn Féin underpins FitzGerald's claim", they noted, and accused the Free State premier of a "blatant attempt to interfere in the internal affairs of Northern Ireland".

EXTRADITION

As for Peter Barry, he used Strasbourg and the platform offered to him as president in office of the EEC Council of Ministers on Wednesday, September 12th, to call for an end of the use of plastic

bullets in the North, praise the Forum report and defend the Free State's policy on extradition. Ian Paisley predictably reacted by tabling an oral question for the next meeting on an "effective EEC extradition policy". Paisley announced that he would attend the next EEC committee meeting in Dublin to "confront" Barry and did so. Fine Gael MEP Richie Ryan went on the attack calling Paisley a "political vulture" who in Strasbourg was regarded as a "pathetic bigot".

As if to further illustrate the duplicity of the Free State government, an Irish Sunday paper 'revealed' that the Free State army was equipped with rubber bullets (four recorded uses so far). As for the gardai, they refused to comment on whether they have plastic bullets or not.

APOLOGISING

More pleas from Peter Barry on Saturday, September 15th, at a conference of the British-Irish Association in Cambridge. The Free State felt 'a certain impatience', Barry said, at the delay in a British response to the Forum. And apologising once more to unionists for Dublin's 'outspokenness' on issues such as the UDR, the RUC etc, Barry argued the well-worn line: "Any failure by Dublin to raise those issues would by default legitimise the serious pretensions of the Provisional IRA and their political henchmen."

But will the Brits move? According to sources quoted by the *Irish Times* on Wednesday, September 19th, there will be no British response to the Forum report by the time of the summit. The hint, significantly, is that the Brits do not think FitzGerald can deliver Articles 2 and 3 or the joint policing of border areas. A further excuse advanced is the risk of a loyalist backlash.

In the last issue of the *Sunday Times*, the usually well-briefed Chris Ryder writes on similar lines. Britain will give the minimum necessary to ensure the South's continued collaboration.

Meanwhile, in Belfast, the new Brit direct-ruler Douglas Hurd has begun to play his part in the stalling game, by starting a round of talks with party leaders — excluding Sinn Féin, of course. The unionists sought — and obtained — reassurance from Hurd on the survival of the Stormont gravy train known as the Assembly, and of course asked for more repression against nationalists. They will probably get that too. After all, 'nationalist alienation' is so bad, according to the Free State government, that a little more of it shouldn't make much difference to the Brits.

Yes, Northern nationalists have definitely got some representative in Garret FitzGerald.

BIGOTRY AT WORK

SEVERAL UNIONISTS, including the bigoted MP for Upper Bann and OUP deputy leader Harold McCusker, attempted to have Sinn Féin representatives thrown out of a public inquiry in Portadown on Monday, September 17th.

The public inquiry dealt with changes in ward boundaries which affect the 1985 council elections, and Sinn Féin attended as did representatives from the OUP, DUP and SDLP.

McCusker, obviously unaware of the public nature of such electoral procedures, simply went to the commissioner and asked for Sinn Féin to be removed, quoting the words of the Baker report on Sinn Féin being "an accomplice of the Provisional IRA".

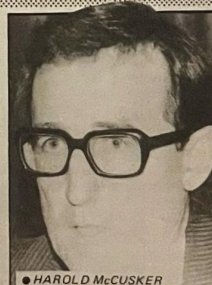
The commissioner for the inquiry reminded McCusker, and DUP colleague David Calvert, that the inquiry was public. Brendan Curran, the Sinn Féin constituency representative for the area, remarked:

"The British and loyalists called

on Sinn Féin to test their support at the polls, and when we successfully do so, they scream that we should not be allowed to participate in the electoral process."

CANCELLED

Meanwhile, on Monday, September 17th, the British government's Industrial Development Board cancelled at the last minute a major PR exercise they were to hold at the Forum/Europa Hotel in Belfast on Wednesday, September 19th. The reason given was that due to "sudden and unforeseen circumstances", none of the IDB top brass — including boss Saxon Tate (of Tate and Lyle sugar) — could attend.



● HAROLD McCUSKER

However, the real reason for the cancellation was the fact that the guest list included West Belfast MP Gerry Adams. Having realised at the last minute that Sinn Féin might be present, IDB officials preferred to cancel the event until further notice — until the guest list has been amended, no doubt.

Gerry Adams, who was not going to attend anyway, described this as the latest attempt by the British administration to make "political lepers" out of Sinn Féin. Those tactics were decided on by the British soon after Sinn Féin's first electoral successes, in the same way as Sinn Féin's good showing in Dublin Central in November 1983 was followed by a spate of refusals by Free State government ministers to receive delegations including elected Sinn Féin representatives.

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

A MASS PICKET in support of the striking workers at Dunnes Stores, Henry Street, Dublin, had over 200 people on the picket line outside the store on Saturday, September 15th.

The strike is in its ninth week following the sacking of a worker who refused to handle South African goods on sale in Dunnes. The pickets have the full support of their union, the Irish Distributive and Administrative Trade Union, and of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions.

Journalists in dispute with Radio Nova for the last seven months have complained of being threatened and jostled by Chris Carey, owner of Nova.

One journalist sought an injunction in the High Court on Monday, September 17th, to restrain Carey from attacking him again. Ken Hammond had been on picket duty alone on Thursday, September 13th, outside Nova Park, the radio's headquarters, when Carey came out and, among other threats, said he would "smash your face in if you appear again".

The application was refused but Hammond was granted leave to serve notice for an interlocutory injunction.

A strike at St Vincent's Hospital, Dublin, is being supported by 200 members of the Local Government and Public Services Union and other staff. The dispute is about the sacking of a senior catering officer.

Valerie Lynch from Ballymun, Dublin, has worked in Mandy's hamburger restaurant for more than two years.

On September 4th, she was sacked for missing one day, although management were aware that she had been ill the previous week.

There is no union in Mandy's, but Harry Fleming of the recently formed Workers Rights Association, has taken up the case. A picket was placed on Mandy's on Monday, September 17th, now suspended to allow for talks with the manager, Nigel Leeming.

Mandy's is owned by Lee Vale Holdings Ltd, who have another restaurant and a pub in Cork. The Workers Rights Association has pledged to fight this case of arbitrary dismissal.

Workers at the Carlow Sugar Company are picketing the plant in support of their claim for a pay rise.

The dispute started on Wednesday, September 19th, when two workers were suspended for refusing to start work after talks broke down between management and workers on Wednesday morning.

Woolworth's management have made another attempt to end the workers' occupation of 15 of their stores in the twenty-six counties, with another application for an injunction to recover the premises lodged this week.

The occupations are by members of IDATU. The other two unions involved, the FWUI and the ITGWU, met the Labour Court for talks on Tuesday, September 18th, and are hoping for an improved offer on redundancy payments.

The strike by 73 craftworkers at Dublin Port, over a claim for travelling time allowance, continues. The month-old strike shows no sign of being resolved.

Nearly all of the Dublin Port and Docks Board's 700 workers are supporting the all-out picket granted by the ICTU on August 31st and implemented last week.

A Bathmines, Dublin, insulating firm, P.J. O'Reilly Ltd, has served a redundancy notice on one of their workers who has been with the company for 24 years.

Christy Murray, from Crumlin, Dublin was told that there was no suitable work

Mass picket on Dunnes



for him, but instead of temporary lay-off until there was work, he was sacked.

Two hundred jobs at Goodbody's in Clara, County Offaly, are in danger as the company, which makes sacks and bulk containers, has been put into receivership.

Goodbody's have been in Clara since 1825, first producing jute sacks and then moving into the production of plastic. The ITGWU has said it is "shocked and alarmed" at the news as the company stated only a few weeks ago that they were not in debt to any government agency.

The union will be demanding an explanation why Foir Teo, the state industrial agency, is refusing a loan to help the company's survival.

A dispute about the withdrawal of 'smoking breaks' at a sportsware factory Sport Tricot, in Monasterevin, County Kildare, has led to a week-long strike.

Management withdrew what they called the privilege of smoking breaks without consultation with the 20 workers.

A Buncrana factory, which was claimed to be able to eventually provide employment for 1,000 workers, is to close.

The ATW Auto-Montan Werke Ltd plant was set up in 1981 to produce a new type of jeep, but the maximum num-

ber of workers only reached 80. At present 18 people are employed at the plant.

Bord na Mona workers are to go on a one-day work stoppage on September 28th in protest at the suspension of the building of the Ballyforan briquette factory.

Redundancy notices have been issued to 85 of the workers on the Derryfada bogs which were to supply the Ballyforan plant with turf.

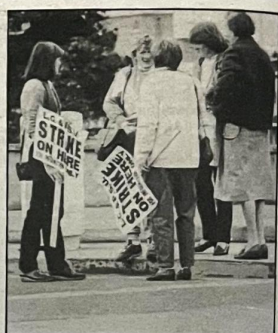
Redundancies at the Albatros Fertiliser factory in New Ross, County Wexford, will reduce the workforce from 205 to 150.

Strike notice was served on the Dublin pharmaceutical firm of Johnson and Johnson on Friday, September 14th.

The 58 workers, members of the ITGWU, are seeking a 17% pay rise over 12 months.

The General Secretary of the Irish Print Union has accused the European Printing Corporation in Coolock, Dublin, of closing the plant without minimum notice and redundancy.

The EPC is owned by Maxwell Group newspapers and the Print Union is seeking support for a boycott of the Group's



● LG&PSU picket at St Vincent's Hospital, Dublin newspapers, the Daily Mirror and the Sunday Mirror.

Mount Jerome Cemetery in Dublin is to close, with the loss of 23 jobs.

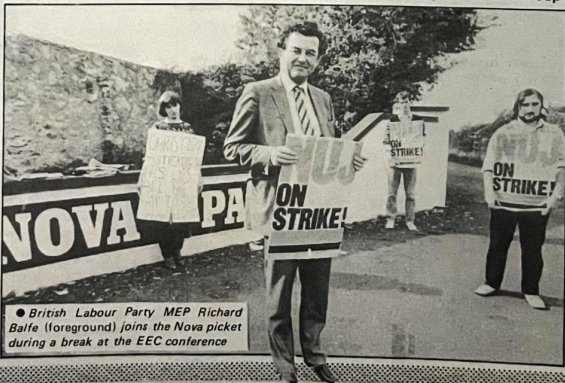
Some of those employed at Mount Jerome have worked there for many years.

The Golden Vale Co-operative, which makes milk products, has announced 90 redundancies among its 1,000 workforce.

A company making medical instruments, Becton Dickinson Ltd, is seeking 182 redundancies in its two factories in Dun Laoghaire, County Dublin, and Drogheda, County Louth. 149 jobs are to go in Dun Laoghaire and 33 in Drogheda.

Another Dun Laoghaire company, the Tycooly International Publishing Company, is closing down. Twenty workers will lose their jobs.

A Trim, County Meath, factory making addressing machine and computer labels is seeking nine redundancies. Scriptomatic SA Ltd is being wound down and more redundancies are expected.



● British Labour Party MEP Richard Balfe (foreground) joins the Nova picket during a break at the EEC conference

Amnesty examines RUC brutality

BY EAMON TRACY

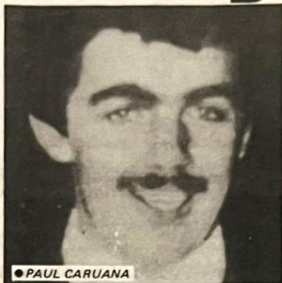
TWO representatives of Amnesty International, Dick Oosting, a lawyer from Amsterdam, and Jurgen Kelstrup, a doctor from Denmark, arrived in Derry on Monday, September 17th, to investigate claims of brutality against the RUC, made by Derryman Paul Caruana.

During their brief stay they talked with Caruana, met Martin McGuinness, and spoke with legal and medical people involved in the Caruana case.

Paul Caruana, from Creggan Heights, was arrested on August 11th under a seven-day Section 12 order, and first taken to Strand Road RUC Barracks in Derry and then to the Castlereagh Interrogation Centre in Belfast. In Strand Road he was examined by a doctor but had no complaints to make. On his arrival in Castlereagh he similarly had no complaints to make to the doctor there.

However, three days later, he was taken to the Ulster Hospital at Dundonald where he was X-rayed and had a cervical collar supplied.

On Monday, August 13th, Caruana's solicitor got in and was given a list of complaints by his client of his treatment in Castlereagh.



● PAUL CARUANA

Following his release, detailed medical and psychiatric examinations were carried out and the reports of these were released last weekend and given to the Amnesty International team.

The reports detail Caruana's experiences in Castlereagh, describing how he was spat on, was beaten, and had plastic bags placed over his head.

BEHAVIOUR

Of his treatment by the RUC the psychiatric report says:

"This behaviour was certainly above and beyond that which would be consid-

ered reasonable and should not be permitted in a civilised society. At present he is suffering from a severe anxiety state. He did not strike me as being the type of person who would exaggerate his complaints. Physical findings were in keeping with alleged abuses. It appears that a considerable effort was made by his interviewers to cause as much pain and suffering as possible without leaving evidence."

The medical report catalogues a number of medical complaints and says:

"If the medical examination of Mr Caruana on his arrest is available and does not record any evidence of the bruising as outlined, the only logical conclusion must be that the bruising occurred while Mr Caruana was in custody. The sites, sizes and appearance of the bruising on Mr Caruana's body are consistent with the types of injury he alleges were inflicted on him while in custody. All of the injuries which he has could theoretically be self-inflicted."

INJURIES

"I think, however, it is justifiable to point out that it would be quite a complex

matter to localise his injuries and amalgamate them to the story he tells. It is also worth pointing out that had it been his intention to falsify this evidence it would clearly be illogical to inflict a laceration on his left wrist, as clearly a self-inflicted injury such as this would, in the circumstances, tend to detract from the credibility of his allegations."

Martin McGuinness in a statement said: "This report is another indictment of RUC interrogation tactics and Sinn Féin intends to circulate this report world-wide. Noraid are already in the process of making the report available to American politicians and influential figures. Copies will be sent to Australia and to British Labour MPs and to the media editors and various civil rights organisations."

"Mr Caruana's allegations, combined with widespread circulation of his medical report, should expose the fact that the RUC is again using torture on a systematic basis in its interrogation centres, and that even the shallow recommendations of the Bennett Report have been long abandoned."

● Castlereagh RUC Barracks, Belfast

Public inquiry reports

BY EAMON TRACY

A PUBLIC INQUIRY organised by the Springhill Community House, an independent community education project, into the RUC attack on the anti-interment march in Belfast on August 12th, published its first report on Tuesday, September 18th.

The inquiry, which was held over a three-day period, August 27th, 28th and 29th, took eyewitness accounts from almost 70

people. This response by local people to give evidence at this inquiry contrasts sharply with the complete failure of the RUC to

get even one eyewitness, apart from journalists, to come forward and give evidence to their internal inquiry.

This first report accurately summarises the events of that day, quoting from eyewitness accounts, and drawing conclusions about the intent of the RUC.

"Witnesses who were questioned about the attitude of the police were agreed that the police were not out of control, that they in fact were seen to be acting in a disciplined way, working in teams, some using batons, some firing, some staying in their vehicles until the vehicles moved forward after the appearance of Mr Galvin. There was no sign of panic among the police or among the higher officers present."

INJURIES

Of the confusion, and the injuries inflicted during the assault by the RUC on the marchers, the report describes part of the scene:

"Meanwhile, residents of the area had opened their houses to shelter injured people and those who were fleeing from the area where firing and batoning was going on. In one house even the bedrooms had to be used to shelter people, in another the householders had to ask those who were not hurt to go out into the back garden to leave room inside the house for those who were."

The report concludes:

"The inquiry accepts that Mr Downes was not killed in order to prevent attack on the police or for riot control. It was avoidable and deliberate, for reasons



● Former workmates and friends of the late John Downes have erected a memorial plaque, made by them, on the roadside wall in front of West Belfast Sinn Féin's Connolly House headquarters, close to the spot where Downes was murdered by the RUC on August 12th.

Also present at Saturday's brief ceremony was Gerry Downes (right) brother of the late John Downes

which should be the object of another rigorous and open inquiry."

CONGRESS

US Congress member Robert Torricelli is to seek full congressional hearings into the RUC's brutal August 12th attack on peaceful demonstrators in Belfast.

Torricelli is a member of the Congress Foreign Relations Committee and of its sub-committee for Europe, and his announcement, made last Friday, September 14th, reflects widespread concern among Americans at news film of the RUC's murderous attack.

Speaking at a press conference in Bergen County Courthouse, Torricelli said that the hearings should examine the use of plastic bullets, the US government's visa-ban policy, and the failure of the US State Department to file any formal protest about American victims of the attack.

Torricelli also intends to request a report from the US State Department.

The New Jersey Congress member, who visited the six counties in January this year on a fact-finding trip, told

reporters that the events of August 12th "have once again brought this problem to my very own district. Three constituents, Jack Maguire, Liam O'Keefe and Gail Redmond were subjected to brutal treatment at the hands of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and British army."

Other speakers at the press conference were freeholder John Curran, who strongly challenged the US government's silence on the incident, and Martin Galvin of Irish Northern Aid.

FRENCH SOLIDARITY

On September 8th and 9th, the Committee for the Defence of Irish Political Prisoners (CDPII) took part in the "Humanité" Festival at the Courneuve (near Paris).

The festival is a huge cultural and political event organised every year by L'Humanité, daily organ of the French Communist Party.

This year, several thousand people visited the CDPII tent and stalls, and looked at the photographic exhibition on Irish resistance, based on Sinn Féin's exhibition folder. Two-and-a-half thousand signatures from visitors from all over France were collected for the petition launched by the CDPII asking for the banning of plastic bullets in Ireland, and the right of the Irish people to self-determination.

HUNGER-STRIKE IN US PRISON

BY JANE PLUNKETT

IRISH POLITICAL PRISONER Colm Murphy, who is serving a five-year sentence in the Springfield Federal Prison, Missouri, called off his hunger-strike on Saturday, September 15th.

Murphy (33) began his protest on September 6th to highlight his contention that his parole release date had been unjustly deferred by a year because his previous conviction in the Free State's Special Court was used against him.

There are legal precedents in the USA that convictions in non-jury courts should be disregarded when fixing a prisoner's release date. Murphy also alleges that he was not notified until it was too late to file an appeal.

CONCESSIONS

A native of Belleeks, South Armagh, Murphy was also de-

manding concessions to facilitate his possible transfer to a prison on the East coast where members of his family live.

After nine days on hunger-strike, Murphy called off his protest when prison officials promised a review of his parole date, and also undertook to consider transferring him to a prison in New York State. Family members were permitted to visit Murphy on Sunday to reassure themselves as to his health.

The Irish American Defense Fund has promised full legal representation for Murphy at the forthcoming parole-board hearing.

BY JANE PLUNKETT

OVER 70 BELFAST housing activists met in the Conway Street Mill on Tuesday night, September 18th, to discuss the common problems they face in struggling for adequate housing.

The crowded meeting, which was organised by Sinn Féin, was attended by representatives of 20 tenants' groups, covering Twinbrook, the Short Strand and virtually the entire nationalist West Belfast area.

The meeting was chaired by Sean Keenan, head of Sinn Féin's local housing department. The main speaker was Alex Maskey, Sinn Féin councillor for West Belfast, who suggested that tenants can operate more effectively by developing a long-term strategy for their areas, including local surveys on housing conditions and housing needs.

INTRANSIGENCE

The subsequent discussion revealed common agreement that although local tenants' groups have won some concessions in recent years, none had sufficient broad support and unity to break the Housing Executive's intransigence on major problems. Among the issues raised were repairs, 'licensee' tenants, the Executive's punitive treatment of tenants in arrears and the sectarian cutback of the Poleglass project.

TENANTS PLAN STRATEGY



● The housing activists' meeting at the Conway Street Mill, Belfast

● Sean Keenan (left) and Alex Maskey

Those present unanimously agreed to

hold a further meeting on October 9th, to elect a steering committee and to begin discussing in more detail their common

experiences and problems, and possible collective strategies against the Housing Executive.

NOT ON THE LIST

BY EAMON TRACY

THE Housing Executive policy in the North of refusing to place on the transfer list any tenant who is in rent arrears was sharply criticised this week by Sinn Féin's Owen Carron, following the refusal of the Executive to deal with the case of a Dungannon couple.

Mr and Mrs Fee and their 15-year-old daughter Bernadette live in a four-bedroom house in Springdale, Dungannon. Gerry Fee suffers from angina and has a lung complaint. Their present home is too large and has upstairs bedrooms, which is a serious problem with Mr Fee's angina. The house is situated at the top of a hill and is a considerable distance from shops and the doctor, which makes movement for Mr Fee a great

problem and a danger to his health.

The Fees applied for a transfer to a house on a more suitable location, with only two bedrooms because their current house is too big for them to manage. Such a move would also, no doubt, have benefitted some other family currently living in overcrowded conditions.

REFUSED

But the local Housing Execut-



● Anne and Gerry Fee

ive representative Ms J. McAdams refused to accept the Fees' trans-

fer because they owed just over £70, and this in spite of the fact

that, as both are on Supplementary Benefit, their arrears are automatically being deducted at source.

Owen Carron said:

"This Executive policy of refusing transfers to tenants, many of whom are in urgent need of better accommodation, simply because they owe arrears, is inhuman and immoral. The vast majority of families seeking transfers are on benefits of one kind or another and the Housing Executive can, and does, deduct the arrears owed directly from the benefit. It doesn't matter therefore whether a tenant lives in Dungannon or Derry or Belfast or any part of the North, their arrears can still be taken.

"It is wrong therefore to force families, many of whom are living in slums, or overcrowded conditions, or as in this case a hazardous health situation, to remain where they are for some totally spurious and ill-conceived policy. This policy is wrong and it must go."

SIT-IN PROTEST AGAINST CLOTHING GRANT CUTS

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

A PROTEST against the refusal of clothing grants to social welfare recipients took place at the Eastern Health Board (EHB) offices in Emmet House, Thomas Street, Dublin on Monday, September 17th.

Twelve representatives from Brookfield and Fettercairn estates, accompanied by Sinn Féin's John Noonan, occupied the headquarters of the EHB's Community Care Service for two hours. They agreed to leave when a meeting was arranged for 4.30 that afternoon with the area supervisor for Tallaght in the Tallaght welfare office.

The area supervisor, accompanied by the four community welfare officers for Tallaght, met John Noonan and six representatives of Tallaght residents who had been refused the clothing grant in recent months. Cummins, the supervisor, said that in 1982 the then government had doubled the money available to the Community Care Service for clothing grants, but had not increased the amount since then.

BLAME

He claimed that in 1983 the Eastern Health Board had subsidised the grants but could no longer afford to. Both he and the four welfare officers said that the blame lay with the Department of Social Welfare.

They claimed that the grants were still

Refusals rejected



● John Noonan (right) and other protesters outside the EHB offices

● Inside the EHB offices, Thomas Street

paid "in cases of dire need" and then proceeded to interview five of the people present about their claims for the clothing grant. All five had been refused the money less than one month ago. The supervisor then decided that two of the applicants were after all entitled to a clothing grant and proceeded to pay it, perhaps hoping to split the protesters and stop the protests.

However, other Tallaght people affected by the cuts have already met to decide on plans for further action against the cutbacks, aimed at the Department of Social Welfare.

UNPROVOKED ATTACK

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

IN a completely unprovoked incident, four nationalists, including a five-month-pregnant woman, were attacked by the RUC in West Belfast in the early hours of Monday morning, September 17th.

Michael and Patricia Brady from the Whiterock area were walking down the Whiterock Road with two friends around 2am on Monday on their way home.

Thirty-year-old Michael and Patricia — who is expecting the couple's third child — noticed a car which sped past them and then slowed down 30 yards in front. Michael recalls:

"The doors opened and four or five men got out and started shouting something at us. To be on the safe side, we then turned into the Ballymurphy estate but again the car came flying after us."

The suspicious car followed the Bradys and their friends

through the Ballymurphy estate and on reaching Springhill Avenue they recall:

"The car and two RUC landrovers came to a halt about ten yards in front. The RUC jumped out and talked to the plainclothes guys and the next thing the RUC ran up to us."

Without speaking a word, according to Michael Brady, the RUC beat him around the head with their batons and a rifle butt, then threw him into the back of a jeep.

ASSAULT

Meanwhile, Patricia Brady, who ran terrified to a nearby house and began ringing the doorbell for help, was chased by the RUC who grabbed her by

the hair and twisted her arm behind her back. She was fortunately saved from further assault when the RUC realised she was pregnant and released her without either apology or explanation.

Her husband Michael and his two friends however were, by this time, being kicked and punched in the back of the RUC landrover on the way to Springfield Road Barracks. All three were separated into cells, the RUC laughing at Michael Brady when he asked to see a doctor and his solicitor.

As with many nationalists who are arrested and assaulted for no reason, Michael Brady was released at 12.20pm on Monday without any charges being preferred.

He subsequently received medical attention for bruises and abrasions to his head and has suffered from a headache since the incident.



●MICHAEL BRADY

Campaign of harassment

BY JANE PLUNKETT

SINN FEIN elected representative Owen Carron has accused the RUC of orchestrating a campaign of harassment against a young married couple from Aughnacloy, County Tyrone, both of whom worked for Sinn Fein during recent election campaigns.

Like other nationalists in the six counties, Eilish and Paul McCabe have come to expect regular everyday repression at the hands of the crown forces. In recent weeks, however, the sectarian UDR and British army have stepped up drastically

their harassment of the couple, who have two small children aged four and three years, and of other family members.

Over a period of a fortnight, virtually every time Eilish McCabe and her husband Paul, who works in a Dungannon factory, travelled by car they were followed by crown forces, stopped and taken to the nearby British army search centre, which is specifically designed for stripping down vehicles.

Eilish McCabe's brother Aidan McAnespie, who crosses the border daily to work in County Monaghan is regularly detained for long periods both morning and evening. The McCabe family, when attempting the journey, have on numer-

ous occasions been taken to the search centre and held for up to three hours. This petty oppression frequently includes one-hour delays for a female searcher to be brought from Dungannon. Nothing has ever been found during these intimidatory searches.

GOUGH BEATINGS

A Tyrone man in his early twenties, John Donaghy, who lives in Cranlome, Galbally, has begun a civil action for assault against the RUC following brutal beatings he suffered recently in Gough barracks, Armagh.

Donaghy was arrested two weeks ago, at 9.15pm on Wednesday, September 5th, and detained in Gough barracks under Section 12 of the PTA. During a full seven days of harsh interrogations, Donaghy suffered severe beatings, during which he was hit repeatedly around the head and especially the ears, by both uniformed and plainclothes RUC men. Donaghy was also beaten while being taken to and from the interrogation room.

The RUC doctor refused to examine him unless he would sign the examination sheets. Donaghy refused to sign anything and was again beaten by the RUC.

During Donaghy's detention, his own doctor insisted on visiting him. The doctor confirmed Donaghy's injuries, which



●EILISH MCCABE

included severe bruising to one ear, to his ribcage and to the back of his neck.

Following his release, late last Wednesday, September 12th, Donaghy has begun a civil action against the RUC for assault. In a feeble attempt to cover up their brutality, the RUC subsequently brought a counter-charge spuriously alleging that Donaghy had assaulted them during interrogations.

RUC blackmail attempts

BY JANE PLUNKETT

THE RUC's continuing attempts to blackmail and threaten people from nationalist areas into working for them has been highlighted, once again, by two separate incidents revealed within the past week by Belfast people.

The RUC's unsuccessful attempt to pressure 20-year-old Paul McCrory, an apprentice bricklayer, began at the end of May when he was arrested from his home in the Short Strand area of East Belfast under Section 12 of the EPA.

McCrory was detained for two days in Castlereagh, where his Special Branch interrogators threatened that he would face trumped-up charges unless he agreed to supply information. Paul McCrory recalls:

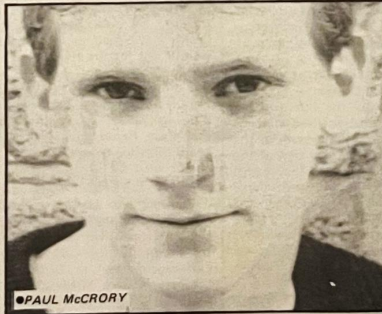
"They set up a meeting outside Paisley's church on the Ravenhill Road at 7.30 on the Wednesday of the following week. They asked me to wear a red top. I never turned up,

never thought about it. I thought to myself, maybe that was one of the things that happened to everybody who went into Castlereagh."

Some three months later, on August 13th, McCrory was lifted again, this time on the Mountpottinger Road shortly after 8am, on his way to work. The arrest, though apparently random, was evidently part of a prearranged RUC plan.

THREATS

McCrory was then taken to Mountpottinger Road Barracks, where two RUC Special Branch men who had interrogated him in Castlereagh were waiting, issuing open threats, they again



●PAUL MCCRORY

ordered him to meet them at the church. According to McCrory:

"They didn't offer me money. One of them said 'You turn up or else the next time you're

lifted you'll not be getting out."

Showing a sinister eagerness for general information on nationalists, one Special Branch man told McCrory:

"Anything at all that's happen-

ing around your district, anything that you think wouldn't be important will be important to us. It doesn't matter if it's not anything to do with the Republican Movement."

McCrory, who on this occasion was not formally arrested, was released after two hours, having been ordered to tell local people that the RUC had questioned him about items stolen from his workplace.

In a final bluff, the young man's interrogators said that if he would meet them once, they would then be able to tell their superiors he was too scared to continue.

However, McCrory recognised that this 'offer' was intended to ensnare him and, on his release, he sensibly contacted Sinn Fein. He did not attend the meeting and decided for his own protection to publicly expose the RUC's coercive tactics.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The other case to come to light involves a young Falls Road man who was arrested in late August and detained in Castlereagh.

There, Special Branch interrogators told him that they were fully aware that he was not involved in any political activ-

ity. They made it clear that he had been arrested solely because the RUC wanted him to gather information for them.

The young man was shown a book of photographs of the funeral of John Downes, who was murdered by the RUC in Andersonstown on August 12th, and asked to identify mourners.

During his two days in RUC custody, the man was subjected by the Special Branch to repeated threats designed to ensure that, following his release, he would meet them at regular intervals to pass on information. An arrangement was made for a meeting to take place on Saturday last, September 15th.

The meeting did not take place. Sensibly, the man contacted Sinn Fein, who found him a solicitor. On the day prior to the proposed meeting, Joe Austin, chairperson of Belfast Sinn Fein, issued a statement outlining the RUC's unsuccessful blackmail attempt.

Stressing that publicity is the only possible protection individuals have against such RUC harassment, Austin added:

"We would advise anyone in a similar position to contact a solicitor or Sinn Fein."

CALCULATED CLAPTRAP

BY SEAMUS GAFFNEY

WHAT HAPPENS when American, Free State and British film money is thrown at the "sad and bitter land of Northern Ireland?" The feature film *Cal* is what happens.

Cal, set in Belfast, is well acted, beautifully shot and edited, with a musical score, by Mark Knopfler of Dire Straits, which is pure magic. It is a film which critics love; it garnered rave reviews in New York where it premiered; it won a best actress award at Cannes for Helen Mirren as the female lead Marcella.

There have been a number of productions in recent years, documentary and narrative, which have focused on the North of Ireland. *Cal* is by far the most expensively produced, most lavishly publicised, and most widely distributed. It will receive more press attention and be seen by more people than all the others combined.

All of which is very alarming — because *Cal* is an extremely deformed presentation. It is romantic, sweet-smelling poison, and dangerous.

CHARACTER

The main character of the film is a 19-year-old Catholic youth, Cal, living — or barely living — in Belfast. As such, Cal will be seen as an archetype for 'Catholic youth in Northern Ireland.' Yet the character of Cal is anything but typical. He is a completely passive, alienated loner. He does not frequent pubs or go to dances. He plays no sports, has no woman friend — apparently has no friends at all. Most of his time is spent in the terraced house which he shares with his equally passive father. Cal is alone in his room, surrounded by a pathetic assortment of youth-orientated consumer goods (posters, souvenirs, hi-tech stereo equipment), listening to *Born Under a Bad Sign*.

Throughout the film, he utters not one word which would indicate any self-awareness beyond what he encounters as he drifts, half-hearted, from one scene to another. Cal is not an actor; he is acted upon; he is the 'alienated working-class young man'.

ANTITHESIS

We begin to understand this film when we realise that this personality is much more typical of the passive, consuming (and therefore alienated) bourgeois youth of say, Dublin, than it is of the Catholic youth in the North of Ireland. The fabric of Catholic working-class society in the North is the antithesis of alienation.

Activities which span the spectrum of social clubs, defending against the 'security forces' or, indeed, dying on hunger-strike are not acts born of alienation. There is a serious misrepresentation here for the Catholic youth in the North have found that it is precisely the social and political involvement in the struggle which dispels alienation.



● John Lynch and Helen Mirren in a scene from *Cal*

Let us remember, when viewing *Cal*, that not only does the Republican Movement seek finally to tear down and replace social institutions which foster and depend upon alienated citizens, but the practical necessities of ongoing, organised popular insurrection themselves dispel passivity and alienation, and after 15 years of recent struggle, there is not a Catholic young man or woman of Cal's age in the North who has not grown up appreciating this.

Cal, however, is a hopeless soul in a hopeless land. This portrayal, not only inaccurate, is also an insult to the national youth of the North, and, worse, will foster disrespect in the film's audience (which we may safely estimate worldwide at 30 million).

GRAPHIC

There are other, bigger problems in *Cal*. The film opens with a graphically depicted night-time shooting of an RUC officer on the doorstep of his country farmhouse. We learn that it is Cal who has driven the gunman to the scene, and together they speed away after the deed is done.

In later scenes, two representatives of the Irish Republican Army, one a cynical academic type in neck-tie and tweeds, the other a sociopath in black leather, coerce Cal into co-operating in two more operations. The IRA is presented in the film only through these two characters. Both are thoroughly disagreeable men, whose sole contribution is the performance of violent acts devoid of purpose or social and political context.

Nowhere do we see the extent of the oppression and institutionalised violence which has necessitated the growth of the IRA. Nowhere do we see any sign of the sizeable support for the Movement. (Where did those 100,000 votes come from?) And the idea that this organisation would — or would have to — compromise itself by coercing an unwilling participant is ludicrous.

VIOLENT

On the other hand, the UVF is represented by three young punks in leather who beat up Cal, and later burn Cal and his father out of their home. Another misrepresentation. The UVF is certainly

violent (much more so than shown in this film), but it is no gang of punk kids.

The effectiveness (if that is the right word) of the UVF is aided in large part by members it shares in common with the RUC and UDR and the sort of grizzly co-operation that common membership implies. But you won't find evidence of that in this film. Along the same lines, the Orange Order are shown to be a tough, red-neck, but grudgingly benevolent crowd.

SALVATION

The plot has Cal falling in love with Marcella, the widow of the RUC man he has helped to kill. Cal, unemployed, also finds a job on the farm which Marcella now runs. Suddenly (and dubiously), Cal's emotional salvation and economic well-being are fruits of this secure Protestant farm. In the most visually and musically romantic sequences in the film, Cal, Marcella and the local Orange Order official work happily side-by-side harvesting potatoes. Cal and Marcella become lovers, and he moves into one of the farm buildings to live — happily ever after.

But no, along comes the IRA, to strong-arm Cal into yet another operation, with tragic results.

The message throughout *Cal* is that all of the individuals and organisations — including the RUC and the British Army — in this "hopeless tragedy of Northern Ireland" are doing their best to provide health and happiness, and might succeed were it not for the IRA. Love and security could be found — as the largesse of the quite human loyalist community — were it not for the misguided interference by a group of sociopathic outcasts — the Irish Republican Army. Have we heard this tune before?

EXTRAVAGANT

Viewers will be interested to know that *Cal* was produced by London-born David Puttnam, who may be remembered for his production *Chariots of Fire*, an extravagant ode to British missionary colonialism and which earned Puttnam a CBE from the British queen.

Puttnam has now turned his sights, and his money, to the North of Ireland, and has made another product of the dominant Anglo-American cultural mach-

ine. It is no coincidence, we feel, that *Cal* employs film aesthetics in a quite determined way to enshrine the practical manifestations of English dominance (the peaceful and productive Protestant farm, the duty-bound but sympathetic RUC, etc) and to deride anything which challenges English dominance (making Cal passive and dependent, deforming the IRA etc).

COLONIALISM

In an article on film as "cultural colonialism", the revolutionary Argentine film maker Fernando Solanas (who produced the widely acclaimed *Hour of the Furnaces*) has much to say that is worth repeating here.

"In an alienated world," he says, "culture — obviously — is a deformed and deforming product... films, the most valuable tool of communication of our time, were destined only to satisfy the ideological and economic interests of the owners of the film industry".

In a neo-colonial situation, Solanas tells us that film "serves to institutionalise and give a normal appearance to dependence. The main objective of this cultural deformation is to keep the people from realising their neo-colonial position and aspiring to change it. In this way, pedagogical colonialism is an effective substitute for the colonial police".

Those words were written in 1969, but Solanas might as well have been describing the real theme of *Cal*, especially when viewed in the Free State.

STRUGGLE

The irony here is that, in another way, *Cal* speaks to the power and effectiveness of the Republican Movement. It is that struggle, and that struggle alone, which has effectively created a curiosity, awareness, and empathy with the people of the occupied North which is evident around the world. Just as there would be no Dublin Forum, no Dublin-London summit, without the need to counter-act the existence of the Republican Movement, so, too there would have been no *Cal*: there would have been no market for the film.

In that sense, *Cal* is a response to the progress of the Republican Movement, but it is a response of a particular kind: it is nothing less than the latest weapon in the ideological counter-offensive of British imperialism.





● Out and about in Cabra

Cloud over Cabra

FOLLOWING recent disturbances in their area, residents of Cabra in Dublin are furious at what they consider the misrepresentation of events and the slur on their community by both the gardai and the establishment media. To discover what had happened Jack Madden visited Cabra and spoke to community leaders and young people in the area.

ON Saturday night, September 8th, a force of garda moved into the Cabra West area of Dublin. Heading towards the playground behind St Finbarr's School, they intended to surprise a group of young people drinking cider and chatting amongst themselves.

This had become a regular expedition for the gardai. They knew where the young people could be found and so they went along each Saturday night, set the Alsatian dogs loose and literally hounded the young people out of the area.

But things worked out differently on September 8th. Young people from the area, knowing that the gardai would arrive, concealed themselves on roof-tops and lay in wait to ambush them. According to reports of the incident, the gardai were severely beaten before their attackers withdrew under cover of dark-

BY JACK MADDEN

ness. Elsewhere in Cabra, other young people were racing stolen cars along Faussagh Avenue, watched by hundreds of spectators.

This spate of joyriding began on August 9th when youths from outside Cabra, realising that Cabra was a

relatively quiet and safe area, decided to drive stolen cars there.

For a month the joyriding continued and, according to locals, the gardai did not interfere; not even when people from the area went to the local barracks to protest.

After their humiliation at St Finbarr's, the gardai needed a pretext for revenge and the joyriding provided such a pretext. Between 50 and 60 gardai from various Dublin barracks were drafted into Cabra on the night of Sunday, September 9th. They brought batons and dogs with them but left their identification numbers off their uniforms.

Many locals welcomed the fact that the gardai had arrived. For weeks on end they had had to watch in terror as 'lunatics' raced stolen cars up and down Faussagh Avenue. Some young Cabra people had joined in the racing while many more relieved their boredom as spectators. Older residents wanted it stopped before somebody got killed.

Had the gardai moved in to prevent joyriding they would have had widespread support. Instead, however, they waited until people were returning home after pub

closing before launching an attack on anybody in the vicinity of the shops on Faussagh Avenue.

STORMED

Some young people, incited by the heavy garda presence, hurled bottles, but when the gardai charged they made no exceptions. Wielding batons, they stormed into a chip-shop ordering everybody out. Those who objected were beaten.

Elsewhere, a group of young people cornered in a garden were given refuge in a house as the gardai attacked them. One youth who did not make the house in time had to shin up a drainpipe as a garda dog snapped viciously at his heels.

And even when the woman of the house ordered the gardai out of her garden, they stood on the road outside taunting the young people to come out and fight.

Such scenes were repeated at other points along the road, with both men, women and even some children being injured in the garda attack. Those who had earlier clamoured for garda action against lawlessness in the area were shocked at what had happened. The community united in condemning the garda behaviour.

MEDIA

But if the gardai had handled the Cabra people badly, the establishment media did likewise. Not only was the situation in Cabra sensationalised, but one Dublin newspaper, the *Evening Herald*, went so far as to give advance publicity to joyriding, thus ensuring that it would happen.

Such journalism continued on the RTE *Today Tonight* programme on September 13th, with Cabra being pre-

sented as a depraved no-go area. And, almost inevitably, a further dimension was added by the RTE radio programme *This Week* on Sunday, September 16th, when a journalist interviewing Cabra people tried his level best to get someone to 'admit' that the trouble in Cabra was orchestrated by Sinn Féin.

ALLEGATION

Indeed, this charge was eagerly latched onto by Jack Manninan of the Garda Representative Association, and both Bertie Ahearne and Michael Keating, deputies for the area in Leinster House, were happy to promote the allegation.

In a statement refuting this allegation of a 'Sinn Féin presence' in promoting the disturbances, Cabra Sinn Féin pointed out that over the period of a month "the gardai failed to curtail the problem or deter the joyriders." The statement added:

"To use Sinn Féin as a cover to cloud the ineptitude of his (Jack Manninan's) own members, is a further example of garda interference in politics and an indication that they are incapable of doing the job they are paid to do."

STATEMENT

And in answer to the misrepresentation of Cabra people by the media, the local Sinn Féin cumann said:

"What passes for balanced reporting has become a matter of what sells or draws the biggest audience."

Criticising reports which treated the area unfairly, the statement continued:

"This type of damage can take years to erase, and while we accept that there are problems in Cabra, as in

other working-class communities, there is a pride in the area and a will to tackle these problems."

Besides the usual problems of youth unemployment and social deprivation, Cabra remains, after 40 years, without a community centre. The absence of such a centre, or a dance-hall, leaves youth in the area with little to do other than lounge about the streets.

True, the area is renowned for its commitment to sport, and in gaelic, soccer and athletics, Cabra has been highly successful. But despite the best efforts of the sporting organisations they can only fill part of the vacuum.

CENTRE

Two successful youth clubs have opened in the area, but again, these cater for a minority of youth. Nor does the centre run by Dublin Corporation stay open at night.

At a meeting called by Cabra West Community Council last June, 300 people came together to discuss the problems of unemployment amongst youth, the lack of recreational facilities and the emerging problem of drug abuse in the area.

Committees formed at this meeting to tackle these problems were helped by the local St Bernard's Youth Club which has allowed its premises to be used as a drop-in centre for youth in the area.

This centre has proved a great success and, besides the normal games facilities of the club, there have been a number of well-attended lectures on drug abuse. Committee spokespersons are thrilled at the response of youth to the centre and say that it indicates how much a full-time community social centre is needed in the area.

CHURCH

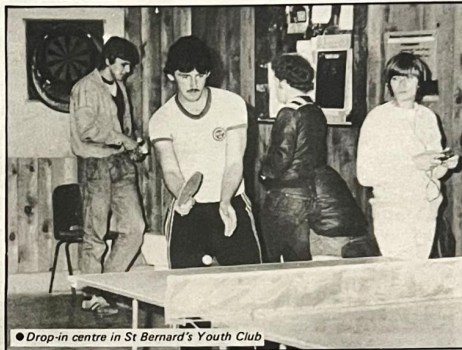
Much of the blame for the lack of such a facility is laid on the Catholic church, and people in Cabra speak of the "major gap between clergy and parishioners".

They point out that the only remaining development land in the area belongs to the church. Furthermore, they say, since the Church has done very well out of its parishioners through financial contributions over the years, it is high time that the church did something for the community.

Such criticisms were expressed verbally and in writing to the local clergy in recent months and the parish priest has since announced that not one, but two centres will be built. The first of these, for the use of old age pensioners will, he says, cost £300,000. The second, for youth, will cost £75,000.

While welcoming the fact that the need for a centre has, at last, been conceded, members of the drop-in centre committee have described as "ludicrous" the plan to build two separate centres. One committee member commented:

"They should be trying to unite the community. That won't be done with two separate centres. Only one centre is needed catering for young and old."



● Drop-in centre in St Bernard's Youth Club

Desmond and drug-dealers under pressure

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

BARRICADES were erected on Thomond Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin, last week when the local committee of the Concerned Parents Against Drugs Campaign heard that a known pusher was moving into a house on the road.

The barricades were maintained for five days and nights until Dublin Corporation was forced to agree not to house the pusher there. A public meeting of the Concerned Parents Campaign in the Pigeon Club, Ballyfermot, on Wednesday, September 19th, planned further action in the area.

Similar action was taken by residents of St Michael's estate, Inchicore, a few weeks ago. A pusher who had been put out of Bridgefoot Street was given a flat in St Michael's estate by Dublin Corporation. She arrived to take possession accompanied by a garda escort, consisting of a Black Maria led by a garda on a motorbike.

In all, 20 gardai, including Branchmen, eventually arrived. The residents however, refused to allow the pusher into the flat, blocking the entrance and refusing to move. She and her garda protectors had to withdraw. The Inchicore committee are patrolling St Michael's estate every night to ensure that no drug dealing is done there.

A letter from Barry Desmond, Coalition Minister for Health and Social Welfare, was received recently by residents of York Road, Cross Avenue and Tivoli Terrace in Dun Laoghaire.

In it, Desmond claimed to have taken action on the drugs problem in the area (a drugs problem that he denied existed six weeks ago) and invited anyone who was still worried about pushers and drug abuse in Dun Laoghaire to visit him in his clinic in Northumberland Avenue, Dun Laoghaire, to discuss it.

DUN LAOGHAIRE

Two hundred members of the Dun Laoghaire Concerned Parents Committee marched from Marine Road to Northumberland Avenue on Saturday, September 8th, many of them waving their letters from Desmond. Two gardai

were on duty at the door, and would not let anybody into the clinic. A meeting was held outside, and demands made for Desmond to come out and speak to the people.

He refused and was seen peering out the windows. He eventually had to leave the buildings over an hour later, to the jeers of the crowd. The Dun Laoghaire Concerned Parents Committee intend to visit Desmond's clinic again on Saturday morning, September 22nd.

MARCH

The first march of the Ballybrack, County Dublin, Concerned Parents Committee took place on Sunday, September 16th. In spite of pouring rain, a large crowd, headed by Our Lady of Victories Band, Sallynoggin marched through Ballybrack from Tesco's Supermarket up to Cromlech Fields, through Coolevin, Wyattville Road, Holly Court and Sheelin Hill. Pushers in the area were warned to stop or get out of Ballybrack.

Bray Concerned Parents Committee circulated a letter around the Killarney Heights estate in Bray, informing residents that a drug pusher lived among them. The residents association of the plush estate have conveyed their disapproval of his activities to their neighbour, but, it seems, more out of concern for the effects of an anti-drug march would have on house prices.

DELEGATION

A delegation from the Central Committee of the Concerned Parents Against Drugs Campaign met Michael Woods, Fianna Fail's Justice spokesperson, at Leinster House on Tuesday, September 18th.

Woods said he agreed with the proposals put to him by the delegation, which included the provi-



● Members of the East Wall CPAD picket a premises on East Wall Road from which a pusher had been evicted by his landlord, to ensure that he doesn't return



● The CPAD delegation leaves Leinster House having met Fianna Fail's Michael Woods

sion of drop-in centres for addicts and run by professional counsellors and ex-addicts, a prevention programme of education and more trained customs officers to stop drugs coming into the country.

The necessity for the Concerned Parents committee to be consulted in drawing up any policy on drugs was also accepted by Woods at the meeting.

Barry Desmond has refused to meet the Concerned Parents committee for the second time, a reflection of his concern about the

drugs epidemic and his lack of action in dealing seriously with the problem.

NAMES

In reply to a request for a meeting with the CPAD, Desmond demanded "the names and addresses of all those of the proposed delegation" and the names and addresses of "the officers and committee members of the Central Committee" before he would consider the meeting. The Central Committee naturally refused such a demand, saying that a meeting

about an issue of such importance should not have any conditions attached.

There are now committees of Concerned Parents in Ballymun, Inner City, Hardwicke Street, Navan Road, Cabra, Dominick Street, Dorset Street, East Wall, Bray, Dun Laoghaire, Ballybrack, Sallynoggin, Tallaght, St Theresa Gardens, Dolphin House, Bridgefoot Street, Pimlico, Inchicore, Lower Crumlin, Upper Ballyfermot, Lower Ballyfermot, Clon-dalkin, James' Street and Fatima Mansions.

NEW PLAN FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS

BY CIAN MAC AOIDH

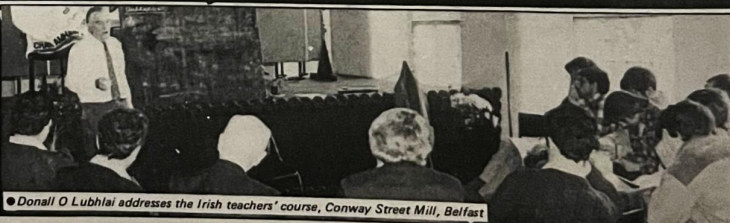
THE Irish language activist and educationalist, Donall O Lubhlai, presided at a course for Irish language teachers in the Conway Street Mill, Belfast, last weekend.

Those present were introduced to O'Lubhlai's own teaching method, an *t-ionais iltaobhach* (attack from all sides), with the emphasis being placed on the practical needs of Irish teachers.

Nine language teachers, from both Conradh na Gaeilge and Sinn Féin, have agreed to follow, step by step, a four-week plan set out by O'Lubhlai. He will return in October to assess the progress of

each class by hearing the views of both teachers and pupils, before explaining the next phase of the course. Hopefully, what will emerge at the end of a year's teaching will be a handbook for teachers in other areas.

Meanwhile, this weekend, Sinn Féin cultural activists from throughout the thirty-two counties will meet to discuss strategy and plot the way forward for the



● Donall O Lubhlai addresses the Irish teachers' course, Conway Street Mill, Belfast

Cultural Department.

The *clar* of the meeting, which will be held in Irish, includes the forthcoming Udaras na Gaeltachta

elections, department structure, Irish nursery schools and possible six and twenty-six county campaigns.

For more details, contact Aine Nic Mhurchadha at the Dublin Sinn Féin office or Eamonn O hAirtghaile at Belfast 230227.

Action against Criminal Bill

BY JACK MADDEN

IN A 'DAY OF ACTION' against the Criminal Justice Bill on Saturday last, protestors picketed several Dublin garda barracks before joining a march to Mountjoy Jail. There, a rally was held during which speeches condemning the political nature of the Bill were delivered by Joe Costello of the Prisoners Rights Organisation, Fr Des Wilson, Nicky Kelly and Giollaíosa O Lideadha of the Union of Students in Ireland.

Earlier on Saturday, pickets representing various groups who have suffered garda harassment in the past arrived at barracks throughout the city.

Members of the Women for Disarmament Group, 33 of whom were arrested in the Phoenix Park during the visit of US President Ronald Reagan, picketed the Bridewell Barracks where they had been held. Dublin North East Sinn Féin picketed both Coolock and Clontarf Garda Barracks, while members of the Nicky Kelly Committee formed a picket out,



● FR DES WILSON & JOE COSTELLO

side Fitzgibbon Street Barracks.

Store Street Barracks was picketed by several inner-city community groups, while members of the Gay community held their picket at Pearse Street Barracks, the centre of the investigation into the murder of Charles Self.

Over 500 people, representing

a wide range of political and social groups, joined a march on Saturday afternoon from Store Street to Mountjoy Jail. And at a rally outside the jail, organised by the Campaign Against the Criminal Justice Bill, Belfast priest Fr Des Wilson warned that the degradation and degeneration which passes

for justice in the six counties will apply equally to the twenty-six counties if the Criminal Justice Bill becomes law. He said:

"We have been made slaves against our will in the North of Ireland and I cannot see how you can allow yourselves to be made slaves voluntarily."

Calling for public action to protect civil liberties, he said that without such action the twenty-six counties will become a military or police state within 15 years.

The political nature of the Criminal Justice Bill was again emphasised by Nicky Kelly, who said that the proposals contained in the Bill are simply an extension of the powers contained in the Offences Against the State Act into ordinary law.

INEQUALITIES

Pointing out that crime would not be solved by this or any other bill until the inequalities in society which lead to crime are ended, Joe Costello said that the "extraordinary" powers contained in the Bill were a denial of freedom. He continued:

"Such powers have been abused before, as in the Offences Against the State Act: where, for example, 89% of people arrested under it in 1982 were not charged with any offence. In the present economic crisis and deepening recession, such powers will be abused again and particularly against the vulnerable groups in our society."

STOP THE ARMAGH STRIP-SEARCHES CAMPAIGN

CAMPAIGN SPREADS SOUTH

AFTER a well-attended meeting in the Connolly Hall in Limerick, addressed by former Armagh prisoner Linda Quigley, action groups against strip-searching have been set up in Limerick, Shannon and West Clare, and Linda Quigley was interviewed by the two local papers, the *Limerick Leader* and the *Limerick Echo*.

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

In Dublin, leaflets were distributed, and signatures gathered for the petition in O'Connell Street, Rathmines and Tallaght, last weekend.

The Louth Committee of the Stop the Armagh Strip-Searches Campaign organised a two-day vigil and photographic display in the Square in Dundalk on Friday and Saturday, September 14th and 15th. They got a tremendous response from hundreds of passers-by, who not only signed the petition but said that they would write to local Leinster House deputies and other prominent people deploring that they protest against this inhuman and degrading treatment of defenceless women prisoners.

MEETING

A public meeting on strip-searching will be held in Belfast on Sunday, September 23rd, and the women POWs in Armagh

have issued the following statement:

"We appeal to all women and men to show their concern at the situation in Armagh Prison by attending this meeting. Strip-searches have been in effect in Armagh Prison since November 1982.

"Every possible avenue has been explored by us prisoners to have it stopped, but almost two years on we are still subjected to this malpractice. This degrading and demoralising procedure has added greatly to the hardship experienced by republican POWs in past years.

"The NIO and the prison administration must be pressurised to act positively on this issue now. Once again, we call on everyone to support us on this important humanitarian issue and ask people to give us their support on Sunday."



● The photographic display in the Square, Dundalk

Portlaoise protest

THE Portlaoise Prisoners Relatives Action Committee put their full-scale model of a Portlaoise visiting-box on display in Finglas village on Saturday, September 14th.

Though there was a good response from people who saw it and read the leaflet, the relatives found that interest in and concern for the prisoners was greatly increased on Sunday morning after the appearance of Nicky Kelly on RTE's *Late Late Show* on Saturday night.

The display was put up outside the church in Finglas on Sunday, September 15th, and people crowded round to see it, saying that they were horrified at Nicky Kelly's description of beatings in Portlaoise. They found the statements that were made at the Prison Officers Association conference, as reported on the *Late Late Show*, particularly shocking.

Several warders had said publicly that promotion in the prison service depended on the level of brutality a warder was prepared to mete out to prisoners. Over the weekend in Finglas, 1,200 people signed the Portlaoise petition.

VISITING-BOX

The visiting-box will be on show outside H. Williams Supermarket in Tallaght, County Dublin, on Saturday, September 22nd, and will be in New Ross, County Wexford, the next weekend.

Petition forms and leaflets are available from the POW office #5 Blessington Street, Dublin. The Committee also has available small models of the visiting box, and asks all areas interested in promoting the campaign to use the model to build their own large displays.

A conference for prisoners' relatives and all interested parties will be held in 5 Blessington Street, Dublin, on Sunday, September 30th, at 2.30pm.

UDR SENT FOR TRIAL

BY EAMON TRACY

TEN MONTHS after the sectarian murder of 24-year-old Adrian Carroll in Armagh, five UDR soldiers from the Drumadd Barracks in Armagh were returned for trial charged with his murder at a preliminary inquiry on Tuesday, September 18th.

The five, Neil Latimer (21), Winston Allen (23), Noel Bell (20), Colin Warton (33) and James Hegan (23), were all charged with murder as well as being jointly

charged with possessing a revolver on the date of the murder.

Carroll, a brother of INLA Volunteer Roddy Carroll who was shot dead in December 1981

along with his comrade Seamus Grew by an RUC shoot-to-kill squad, was murdered as he returned home to his flat in Abbey Street.

He was shot three times in the head and once in the shoulder by a man who then ran up English Street. Some time later, a dark blue Cortina, which had been stolen four weeks earlier on the loyalist Shankill Road in Belfast, was found nearby.



● Noel Carroll at the bloodstained scene of his brother Adrian's murder

Another member of the UDR, David McMullan (22), was also sent for trial for withholding information.

I nDIL CHUIMHNE

COMHBHRÓN

BEANNACHTAÍ

Death of Sally McCann

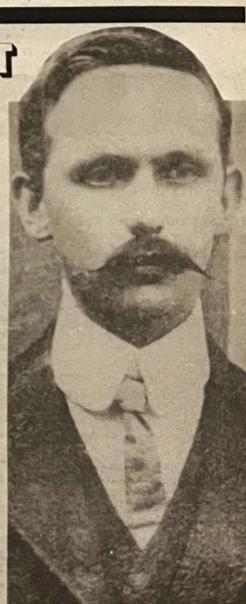
Death of Sean McAteer

REMEMBERING THE PAST

EAMONN CEANNT

Buíochas

TORTHAÍ CRANNCHUR



IRISH⁹⁵ Lesson

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

Conas atá (konus utaw) – how is?
 Conas a bhí (konus uwee) – How was?
 Tinn (teen) – sick, sore
 Go guafá (guh dunuh) – bad
 Go huafásach (guh hoofawsoch) – terrible
 Go hiontach (guh hoontoch) – wonderful
 Go –
 Ar fheasbas (eer ow-us) – great, excellent
 Suimilí (somooli) – interesting
 An aimsir (un eymshir) – the weather

Conas atá an caifín beag? – How is the little girl?
 Tá sí tinn – she is sick.
 Conas atá an aimsir i gCorcaigh? How is the weather in Cork?
 Tá sí go huafásach – It is terrible.
 Conas a bhí an cluiche? – How was the match?
 Bhí sí go dona – It was bad.
 Conas atá an tghnua? – How is the new house?
 Tá sí go hiontach – It's wonderful.

PHRASES

1 – Conas atá tú? – How are you?
 2 – Tá mé ar fheasbas, go raibh maith agat – I'm great, thank you.
 3 – Conas atá? – How's that?
 4 – Conas a deintar é (konus uh dentur awa) – How is it doing?

PHRASES

tá tú? — How are you?
ar fheabhas, go raibh maí
 great, thank you.
an? — How's that?
s a deintear é (kunas
 — How is it done?

mála poist

Incest

A Chára,

When do we start to talk about incest in Ireland? Those of us who have been through this horrific ordeal as children have carried our pain alone, perhaps for years, thinking that it happened to nobody else but us and feeling different and cut off from other girls and women.

When a father, uncle, brother or other relative sexually abused us, we often thought that it was our fault, because it was so hard to put the blame on a person we were supposed to trust. We were told to be careful of strangers, but nobody warned us about members of our own family.

Sometimes we were afraid of what would happen if we told anyone, or we didn't have words to put it in, or the person we told did not know what to do, where could we go for help? There was nowhere.

Often, we couldn't bear to think about it, and as we grew older we buried the memory in the back of our minds.

The purpose of this letter is to reach any woman who has been through this terrible experience and thinks she is alone, or that nobody else would understand how she feels. We incest survivors meet once a week. We sit down and relax over a cup of tea or coffee and talk if we feel like it - there's no pressure on anyone.

We're there to get to know each other, listen and share our feelings, and give each other support. Please come along. We are not alone, and we need each other.

We meet every Friday night at 7.30pm in the Women's Centre, 53 Dame Street, Dublin 2. To contact the group, ring 710088 on Friday nights only.

Ruth Jacob,
Incest Survivors' Group,
c/o The Women's Centre,
53 Dame Street,
Dublin 2.

Cultural revival

A Chára,

The Irish cultural revival, which has embraced the whole of the six counties over the last three years, is now well and truly under attack.

Today's ever-growing and expanding interest in Irish culture, particularly in the native language, is a consequence, both directly and indirectly, of the H-Block POWs' determination to power the language while on the blanket. This is a fair assessment to make when one considers, for example, the numerical and geographical extent of evening classes throughout the six counties prior to 1978/79, in comparison to their widespread existence today.

It is therefore inevitable that imperialism, having identified forces running contrary to its interests, will react with repression.

The Irish cultural revival is such a force, in that it potentially threatens imperialism in Ireland, if a subject



POLEGLASS DUMP

A Chára,

Last week, Sinn Féin representatives met senior directors of Eastwoods to discuss their dump on the Colinglen Road at the back of Poleglass. The Poleglass dump has been a serious source of controversy since families first began to move into houses on the estates several years ago.

Sinn Féin became involved in the issue following representations from residents in the Colinglen part of the estate, whose homes are closest

to the dump.

Their complaints centred around the close proximity of an open dump with easy access for young children, the smell, the rats, the mice, and insects. Many also claimed that illnesses among young children and elderly people could be blamed on the dump.

Upon investigation, Sinn Féin discovered that there were two related issues involved. Firstly, there is the issue of dumping, mainly by individuals, of household

rubbish along the roadside in and around the dump. This has become a major source of danger not only because of the obvious health problems created, but also because of the threat to motorists. In our view this dumping, while it was going on to some extent prior to the Eastwoods dump being opened, has considerably worsened since then.

Secondly, the dump itself, leased by Eastwoods from the Department of Environment,

has accumulated large amounts of household rubbish, as well as the 'hardcore' which is the only substance the site is legally permitted to take. The dump is not adequately secured, consequently there are many who use it as an open dump for all types of rubbish and waste.

Lucy Murray, Sinn Féin's Poleglass representative, explains what happened at the meeting with Eastwoods:

"We were informed by Eastwoods that their plans for the site included the continuation of dumping for at least another five years, and the eventual development of the site for industrial purposes."

"In turn, we told them that in our view the dump was a health and safety hazard and that it should be closed. They rejected our arguments and insisted that it was not a health and safety hazard and that they must continue to use the site."

"We asked that they fence off the dump completely to prevent easy access to children. This they similarly rejected, claiming that it was not their responsibility. On this point, however, they agreed to attend any meeting we might arrange with the Housing Executive and Department of Environment to discuss whose responsibility it in fact is."

"The Eastwoods directors also agreed to allow a public health official, present at Sinn Féin's request, to lay rat beds to curb the level of rat activity."

"We made it clear to Eastwoods that, given the plans of the Housing Executive to build an additional 500 homes close to Colinglen, there would be ongoing opposition to their dump and that we would continue in our efforts to reach a satisfactory conclusion for the residents of Poleglass."

PRO Poleglass Sinn Féin.



in recent months bear this out fully.

What we in turn must do is to understand the irrefutable link between today's cultural revival and the prisoners' struggle, and the challenge which the revival poses to imperialism throughout Ireland.

Dáglán Ó Cearnaigh.

Ministir Gallda

A Chára,

Is cuma cad a shíleann tú faoi na rudáir rinne Poinisais Ó Mianáin is deach an Phobail, Cnoc Fola nuair a léigh sé píosa ó Dia Ecclesie le linn Aifreann a bheith ar síd. Go bunúsach, tá an ceart ar fad againe.

Ní ceart ag Father Sweeney Béarla a thabhairt isteach chun na Gaeltachta ar shif amháin nó ar shif eile. Is paráiste Cnoc Fola ina bhfuil gnáthchaint na ndaoine, an Ghaeilge, agus atá suite i lár na Gaeltachta.

Ní ann ach cur i gcóil a rís go bhfuil an Béarla ann ar mhaithle le cuairteoirí ann de bhrí go bhfuil an teanga beo fós ann, rud nach mbéidh mál leigean muid le Father Sweeney Béarla a bhrú ar na daoine.

Ní hé sin amháin ach bhí ar lucht an Chumann Luthchias Gaeil stad a chur le cluiche peile i bparc s'eanú ó tharla go raibh Father Sweeney ag teasc "soccer" do bhuaicail na háite. Tá Father Sweeney ina bhall den FAI. Comh maith le sin bíonn sé ag reachtáil 'discos' agus

dúsh uair sa teachtain tús sé ag tabhairt deághóir isteach ó Rann na Feirste ar bhusanna chuig na 'disco' seo.

Dá mbéidís ag lorg duine atá báil len gcultúr ársa ní hé Father Sweeney an céad duine a thiofadh i dceann.

Is cosúil, "is é an gabha ag déanamh bróga" agus nach d'ainmneáns sé leis agus anois go bhfuil sé ag iarraidh an áit a mhúnlú ina dhóigh Gallda féin.

Tá cor eile sa scéal comh maith atá i bhfad níos measa fós, is é sin, na 'Inquisitors' taobh amuigh de theach an Phobail agus cead acu daoine a choinneáil amach ón Aifreann. B'fhéidir gurb é "Storm-troopers" an t-ainm ceart bheith orthu.

An amhláigh gur thárla an eacra seo taobh amuigh de theach an Phobail i ngan don sagart.

Seán Ó Canáin.

Niall Rush

A Chára,

The daily newspapers (no friends of An Phoblacht/Republican News) have already churned out, regurgitated and spat forth again around 1,600 column inches, or 80,000 words, on the subject of Niall Rush. Vincent Browne, the great liberal, has weighed it with a colourful piece.

That mean-eyed little man, the Minister for Health, has promised an Act, and there will be a permanent body of time-serving hacks set up - to

do what? To monitor, of course. But it is you, and every little scrubber west of Dublin that will pay; or shall we add it on to the £22 billion of national debt?

So for pity's sake, will you cop yourselves on. Niall Rush was 31 years of age. He had been through this clinic eleven times in two years. He was his own master. I am very sorry for him, of course, but he was a bit of a drifter; he did it for money. He was not among our 750,000 under-privileged citizens living below the subsistence level. His parents had been in the diplomatic service. His father's index-linked pension probably exceeds by four times the average level of income in this state.

It was a sad affair, but it is not a priority for the Republican Movement. One of our first priorities ought to be the highlighting of the appalling injustices of the long sentences meted out and being served under a twisted judicial system by 1,200 Irish men and girls. You are not doing that.

But if you want also to take a sidelong swipe at social ills, why not consider. I have written about this elsewhere) the high rate of unrecorded suicide in the twenty-six counties, in rural and urban areas, among our youth? These are not young people on drugs; they are young people pressurised by the exam system and the despair of never having a job.

In one area of County Meath last year there were three such suicides; and not a single column inch from the bar-stool reporters of Dublin. An mbheirighidh breith orraibh then?

Uinséann Mac Eoin,
Dublin 4.

Imeachtaí

FUND-RAISING SOCIAL
(In aid of the Dublin Republican Flute & Drum Band)
Featuring various artists
8pm Thursday 20th September
Eccles Lounge
Dorset Street
DUBLIN
Táille £1

SINN FEIN CULTURAL DEPARTMENT MEETING
11am Saturday 22nd September
5 Blessington Street
DUBLIN
Organised by the Belfast Cultural Department
(The meeting will be conducted in Irish)

SINN FEIN WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT MEETING
11am Saturday 22nd September
Sinn Féin Centre
Park Street
DUNDALK

STOP THE ARMAGH STRIP SEARCHES CAMPAIGN VIGIL
10pm to 6pm Saturday 22nd September
Market Street
DOWNPATRICK
County Down

EXHIBITION
12.30-3pm Saturday 22nd September
Shopping Centre
DALLYMUN
Dublin

PUBLIC MEETING
2pm Thursday 23rd September
Conway Street Mill
BELFAST
Speakers: Dr. Arno Powell
Everyone welcome

ACTION GROUPS MEETING
8pm Tuesday 25th September
IDATU Hall
Cavendish Row
DUBLIN

PORTLOISE RELATIVES MEETING
7pm Thursday 25th September
Sevastopol Street Centre
BELFAST
(To discuss the worsening situation in Portlaoise)

SOCIAL
9pm Thursday 27th September
No. 5 Club
Blessington Street
DUBLIN
Táille £1
In aid of Liberties Advice Centre

DANCE
Friday 28th September
Jackson's Hotel
BALLYBOFEY
County Donegal

ROGER CASEMENT COMMEMORATION
2.30pm Saturday 29th September
March from Town Hall to Sandycoe
DUN LAOGHAIRE
County Dublin

BALLAD SESSION
Music by Latch
9pm Saturday 29th September
Cassidy's Lounge
COLLON
County Louth
Organised by Sinn Féin

THOMAS ASHE COMMEMORATION
3.30pm Sunday 30th September
Glasnevin Cemetery
DUBLIN
Assemble 4pm Outside 3pm
Organised by Sinn Féin

OÍCHE ÁIRNEÁIL
Every Friday
Andersonstown Social Club
BELFAST
Fáilte roimh chách

Lurgan phone

THE PHONE NUMBER for Lurgan Sinn Féin advice centre has been given incorrectly in some publications as 27893. Please note that the correct number is Lurgan 6795.

Reviews

Old traditions and new

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

BBC2's NEW SERIES *River Journeys* started on Sunday with a journey up the River Congo in Zaïre. Michael Woods travelled up the river for 1,000 miles, on three different vessels, stopping at towns and villages along the way.

Zaïre's history of plunder and exploitation by whites, who used the Congo as a slave market, has left many reminders, but Woods was accepted on the boats and in the villages with courtesy and kindness.

On the *Colonel Kokolo*, which he boarded at Kinshasa, the capital of Zaïre, he found a virtual floating town, where whole families lived on barges alongside the ship and traded for food which they sold in the markets in the big towns. Though money did change hands, the trade was mainly in barter, transistor batteries for vegetables, monkeys and fish for cigarettes and clothes.

The boat's arrival was signalled from village to village by drums, and the people were always waiting in their dug-out canoes, to surround the barges and display their fruit, vegetables and fish. The old tradition and the new seemed to mix easily, and Woods

spoke to one man travelling up the river to see his parents.

He worked in an office in Kinshasa, but regularly brought his family back to the village, so that they were aware of their roots and of the contribution the villages made to the life of the towns.

At the last village he visited where the French of Kinshasa and Kisangani (formerly Stanleyville) had given way to Swahili, Woods was given rice, and chickens, a present from the people. "They gave me more than they could spare, and far more than I could ever repay," said Woods.

This was an excellent film, though it could only show a small part of the beauty of the country and the people.

Later on BBC2 was *The Comedians*, the last film in the tribute to Richard Burton. He played Mr Brown, a hotel owner in Haiti, uninterested in the vicious regime of Papa

Doc and his Ton Ton Macoute, and only concerned with his failing hotel business and his affair with the Brazilian ambassador's wife (Elizabeth Taylor).

Brown becomes reluctantly involved with the rebels, and finds himself the commander of a guerrilla company because, as one of the leaders tells him, the natives think that white men are "experts at killing."

The Comedians was about the parasites in countries like Haiti, who go on pretending that the injustice and cruelty around them has "nothing to do with me" until their own comfortable lives are affected.

News reports on Saturday and Sunday were full of oothing and aahing over the new baby born to England's Prince Charles and Princess Diana. RTE was as enthusiastic as ITV and BBC in their fervent coverage of the birth of the latest Hoorary Henry.

A statement from Sinn Féin National Director of Publicity, Danny Morrison, criticised RTE for its coverage saying:

"On RTE on Saturday eve-

ning one could have been forgiven for believing that the twenty-six counties were still part of the British Empire, when fulsome and joyous reporting of the royal birth took precedence over news of the tragic drowning of two young Mayo schoolboys."

"This criticism is far from petty as such reporting shows how anglophiled RTE and the Dublin establishment have become."

The last programme in the political documentary *From the Shadow of the Gun* was on ITV on Sunday. The format for this programme was that former senior diplomat Sir Nicholas Henderson used his skills as 'honest broker' and interviewed representatives of the various political parties in an effort to find a "solution to the problem."

Henderson, however, refused to speak to Sinn Féin. As Sinn Féin pointed out, his attitude made a farce of the role he was allegedly performing. Sinn Féin were offered a separate interview with Mary Holland, presenter of the series, if Garret FitzGerald had no objections to appearing,



● In the first of BBC2's *River Journeys*, Michael Woods (inset) sails up the Congo

not alongside, but merely on the same programme as a Sinn Féin representative!

Sinn Féin took a decision not to appear on the programme and informed *Weekend World* that the attitude of Henderson reflected a British government position and pre-empted the problem.

Sinn Féin said that it saw "no reason why we should participate in this programme in a way which depicts republicans as political lepers. We

consider that *Weekend World* has surrendered objectivity and independence to the political narrowmindedness of Nicholas Henderson."

The programme that went out was a series of boring, repetitive interviews with Hume, Paisley, Molyneux, FitzGerald and Prior. All the usual clichés were trotted out, in a background of marbled halls and plush offices and was a suitable end to a very forgettable, uninspired series.

An undramatic conflict

BY SEAN DONNELLY

THERE'S AN evocative scene in Mel Brooks' film *The Producers* (which some of you may have seen last week on television), in which Gene Wilder and Zero Mostel read laboriously through a mountain of scripts, searching for the worst play ever written.

Brooks' film was produced in 1967, but if there's ever a remake I wouldn't mind betting that Paddy Devlin's play *Strike* (I) was on at the Belfast Arts Theatre last week — will be a strong contender for that accolade.

Obviously about the conflict between 'sectarian' and 'non-sectarian' elements of the ITGWU membership in the predominantly Catholic workforce of the Belfast deep-sea docks, focused around the events that follow the arrest of a union member under the PTA by Liverpool police, *Strike* is little more than an undrafted and facile personal trade by this ex-SDLP gas-and-water socialist against any notion of Irish nationalism.

Rather than portray a conflict of ideology, however, Devlin's script never manages to rise above the level of high-pitched ranting. Devlin's 'hero' — the grey-suited union demagogue Liam Richards, who sees himself as a sort of messiah delivering the branch membership from the jaws of 'extremism', and whose idea of union democracy is to take a decision and then ask 'are you with me, lads' — is no more than a thinly disguised Paddy Devlin himself.

From the very start, there's no doubting that Richards epitomises the 'voice of reason' and the essence of non-sectarianism. But for good measure, just in case someone somewhere's missed the point, Devlin throws in a suitably symbolic Protestant shop steward, Ernie Gray, who — clutching a copy of Samuel Levenson's biography of James Connolly (his big mistake

Play

was throwing in his lot with that gang in 1916) — gazes starwads and delivers a solemn soliloquy on the theme that 'Liam Richards is a good man'...

The 'other side' — that of sectarian bigotry (or of nationalism, depending on your point of view) — is portrayed by the blustering bully, Brian 'Bru' Flynn, who yells things about 'commie' conspiracies, knocks around with a punch-drunk psychopath called Gunboat Smyth, and hatches plots with something called the ASU of the 2nd Battalion — whose military preoccupation seems to be inducing a heart attack in Liam Richards!

Not surprisingly, Devlin attributes his 'inspiration' for the play to Sticky playwright Martin Lynch, and certainly he has drawn his political inspiration from the genre of hysterical and hypocritical abuse that is the Workers Party hallmark. But, though far be it from me to defend Lynch from his emulators, Devlin has acquired none of the other's artistic skills.

For all his shortcomings, Lynch can at least produce a witty entertaining play with some depth and cohesiveness of plot. Devlin's play, by contrast, starts off unconvincingly and goes rapidly downhill, degenerating into a series of unfunny improbabilities of which a scheme to kidnap the American ambassador 'with his permission' is only the most painfully absurd.

The play's denouement,



● PADDY DEVLIN

just after the arrested trade unionist arrives back from Liverpool to confess that he deliberately got himself arrested to get away from his Aunt Aggie (a prostitute, who appears on stage now and again for no discernible reason) must rate as one of the most embarrassingly dreadful moments I've ever endured in a theatre.

I felt genuinely sorry for the actors having to face an audience with this drivel.

It's as though, having cobbled together a 'plot' as a pretext for delivering some oratorical diatribe against 'sectarianism' and 'extremism', Paddy Devlin simply ran out of things to say, with which to draw the play to an end. Instead, he just leaves his actors staring mutely at an audience that wonders what the hell's going on.

"Oh, shit!" says Ernie Gray, the Protestant shop steward, in impotent frustration, as the curtain comes down. Well, yes exactly! I couldn't have put it better myself.



Sport

Reviews

Soccer United

BY JOHN JOE KING

IF partition only existed in sport, would it still be worth trying to end it? A perennial question; but not one heard in the last week from soccer dreamers after the World Cup games in which Russia met its Skibbereen at Lansdowne Road and Rumania was sobered up at Windsor Park.

Incidentally, before I go any further, what a memorable moment in Dublin just before the kick-off, when the ground echoed with the loudest booing in many years. Not directed at the visiting team, or indeed, the referee — but at the announcement of the presence in the ground of Labour Party leader Dick Spring.

The 1-0 victory over Russia was indeed an historic one, but history is not made in a day and tickets for Mexico should still be available at a discount. Nor would Southern soccer supporters currently gaze with any particular envy at the Northern team which eventually put Rumania under 3-2.

At the moment, an all-Ireland soccer team would, to my mind, only include McIlroy, O'Neill and Whiteside from the Northern eleven. But it has not always been thus and the swings will pass the roundabouts again.

It cannot be disputed that a combined team would produce the most constant talented panel over the past years and, for the future, make a true Ireland team a major world force.

GOALKEEPER

Not all problems would be solved immediately, of course, a goalkeeper needs to be found either way — but most important is the possibility of moulding and motivating the stars available in a manner never yet achieved by successive Southern managers.

So three players only from the North, but manager Billy Bingham too, and that off-field addition to the present on-field talent could be explosive.

An Irish international side might thus line up: McDonagh (Notts County), O'Leary (Arsenal), Hughton (Tottenham), Lawrenson (Liverpool), Moran (Man Utd),

McIlroy (Stoke), O'Neill (Notts County), Brady (Inter Milan), Stapleton (Man Utd), Whiteside (Man Utd), Galvin (Tottenham).

Not everyone would agree with that choice, but that just proves the point, with the like of Whelan, Graaflish, Walsh, Armstrong, Hamilton and Robinson challenging hard for places.

With such a development, a victory over the Soviet Union would not be a shock, it would be expected, and Rumania would get a regular runaround.

TERRACES

There is another very important spin-off from soccer united — and, let us assume that sectarianism has gone from the terraces in our plan of things — an all-Ireland soccer league to replace the present flagging duo.

The League of Ireland opened in the South last weekend with all the lack of lustre and support that spells another unimaginative, uninspired season. The Irish League might just, on balance, claim superiority, but it's the pot and the kettle, and the Northern scene is anyway waste-



● John Devine (Free State) dodges past the USSR's Anatoly Demianenko during the match at Lansdowne Road

fully tied up in the almost total loyalist sectarian monopoly.

It is clear that Dublin, no more than Belfast, can only realistically maintain two soccer teams (you know, like Manchester and Liverpool).

Dublin's six teams are just three times too many.

It is good to see Longford arrive in league soccer and Cork return. The spread of the game at that level would undoubtedly see a Derry comeback also in two

all-Ireland slightly trimmed divisions.

Coupled with an all-Ireland international side it could mean the revival of soccer in Ireland. It could mean the only hope for soccer in Ireland.

Intoxicated mayhem O'More's Almanac

BY RORY O'MORE

TO MARK the centenary of the GAA, Dublin's Abbey Theatre, in recent weeks, has treated us to the revival of John B. Keane's *The Man From Clare*, first produced 20 years ago.

I am not sure that the more stuffy elements of the GAA are too enamoured by the choice.

The play concerns itself with the men of Cus, the pride of County Clare, who one summer in the mid-1950s cross the Shannon for their annual footballing confrontation with Bealabawn of County Kerry. The weather conditions cause an unexpected delay in returning.

The men of Cus are as enthusiastic off the field as they are on it, but their enthusiasm is directed to wild drinking, wild dancing, wild fighting and wild women, of the kind which last weekend saw the proposed banning of spirituous liquor from GAA trophies.

Amidst this intoxicated mayhem is Padraig O'Shea (Macdara O Fatharta), struggling with the reality of the sunset of his days as the best footballer in Clare. He also is

betting with the sexual frustration of an unskipped bachelor in his thirties heading down the same road as his misogynist uncle, Daigan (Ray McAnally), the team's trainer.

Luckily Padraig stays overnight at the home of equally sexually frustrated former nun, Nellie Brick (Maire Hastings) and at the end of the play the two team up, leaving Nellie's sexually frustrated widowed father Morihsen Brick (Eamonn Kelly) to pursue his fancied forty-year-old.

Very much an exaggerated package then, and on the night I was there, Maire Hastings was totally unable to keep her face straight, so ham were the lines required. But a greatly enjoyable scramble for all that, and more than a pinch of reality in there as well.

The news at the weekend that Moving Hearts is likely to go under is quite



● Moving Hearts — the original line-up

rightly described as heart-breaking. Its combination of traditional, rock and jazz music in a constant development, which was actually enhanced by frequent changes in personnel, was without argument the most significant

step forward in Irish music for years.

Their demise is not because of lack of talent, even less because of lack of popularity, but simply because their music does not fit the pulp machines of the record industry.



● MACDARA O FATHARTA

Without an imaginative music mogul to take them up, the group cannot financially survive. So, after ecstatic receptions on their European tour and, no doubt, a fantastic festival follow-up at the Stadium this week, the Hearts, barring a miracle, will be finished.

Once again, what the punters want isn't what the punters are going to get. Putting meaning into melody is not

popular with the purveyors of mindless music.

But even now preparing a sortie along the same route is Don O'Connor, formerly of the Limerick group, Reform. His new band, Celtic Fusion, is working in studio in Galway on a musical combination of rock, jazz, funk and traditional Irish, which has the promise of big things ahead.

Seodaí Ó Inis Meáin Leabhar

LE CARRÁNACH

LEABHAR filíochta é seo ar chuir mé dúil ann, chan ionann is cuid den 'fhilíocht' a foilsíodh le tamall de bhlianta anuas — filíocht a bhfuil smaointe domhaine uaisle inti, b'fhéidir, ach nach bhfuil ceol sna focail, an cineál filíocht a dtugann Lucht an Bhearla *blank* verse uirthi.

Tá cúig cinn is fiche de dhánta áille sa chnuasach seo ó pheann Dhara Bhig Uí Fhatharta as Baile na Creige, Inis Meáin, Oileáin Árann; tá cuid acu marth, cuid iontach maith agus cuid ar fheabhas.

Níl oiread is dán amháin sa leabhar náir thaitin líom gídh go bhfuil corraheann ann náir aontaigh mé leis de thairbh polaitíochta — macas-amail. An Toghchán Mór agus De Valera agus gídh nach

bhfuil mé ar aonintinn leis an údar fá na moltaí a thug sé don Fhear Fhada ní thig le duine ar bith a shéanadh go raibh an Fear Fada céanna dílis don Ghaeilge, cibé locht eile a bhí ar a fhealsúnacht pholaitiúil.

Taobh amuigh de chúpla dán fá chúrsaí polaitíochta tá na dánta eile fá na hoileáin agus fá nithe a thárla iontu: An Caillín Báire (ainm báid) Gíór na Baintir, Cuimhne an Phlarsaigh, Amhrán an Mhíl

Í. Mhóir, Tá an Fíon ag teacht i dTír agus eile.

Is furast a fheiceáil gur cainteoir dúchaís atá an údar agus go bhfuil fios a cheirde go maith aige, agus nach ionann é agus cuid de na huascáin — mo mhacatamhail féin — a bhfuil de dhánaíocht iontu filíocht a scríobh i deanga nach bhfuil acu ó dhúchas.

Chun go bhfaighfí blas ar fhilíocht Dhara Bhig, seo thíos

cúpla líne:
In arm na nGail, ní raibh duine dinn ann,
Cé go ndéachai na sluai-
the thar sáile,
Ach i mbliain a Sé Déag
i gCnoc Arbhair go tréan
Bhí an Brianach ar maidin
Luan Cásca

Nuair bhí Conradh na Gaeilge ag neartú a chuid fréamh
Bhí Coirneanainn go héil-
eachtach bláthmhar
Is beidh Brat na dTí
Dhath ag leathnú amach
Nó go sroicfidh sé Reac-
lann is Málainn...

● Cloch an fhaoleáin le
Dara Ó Fatharta, M.F. Ó
Conchúir a chuir in eagar.

CLOCH AN FHAOLEÁIN

DARA Ó FATHARTA



Arna thóisiú ag Clóidóirí Lurgan, Iudrabhán, Contae na Gaillimhe Luach £2.50.

THE LEVEL of political acumen in the UDA's monthly hate-sheet *Ulster* can be gauged from the following letter which appeared, without any editorial correction, in the Readers Write page:

"Dear Editor,

When will the Northern Ireland Office ever learn? Visits by Martin Galvin, Noraid, the Irish National Caucus, Ken Maginness, Tom, Dick and Harry, are only arranged by Gerry Adams for his own publicity-grabbing, selfish ends.

These aliens can't possibly do the cause of Ulster Protestantism the least bit of harm and I can't remember Galvin or Maginness showing their faces around any Protestant area. So why make all the fuss that gives the IRA the headlines they so desperately need to survive?

I say let them all come here on their nocturnal visits. Let them slip in and out unnoticed and we will soon discover how the lack of publicity forces them to keep their dollars in their pockets!"

This amazing missive is signed "Newtownabbey Realist"

Realist or not, that's one County Antrim town that the former UDR Major, now MP for Fermanagh/South Tyrone, would do well to steer clear of.

★★★★

The same publication gives us some interesting information on the 41 UDA members still in the Long Kesh cages with political status.

Ulster bemoans their fate and concludes:

"To call them 'criminals' is in itself a crime because the 41 who still remain in Compound 17 are former members of the RUC, British army, UDR and Orange Order. (22 Orangemen, 4 RUC, 5 UDR, 9 British army, 2 prison officers and 6 TAVR.) Facts speak for themselves."

Indeed they do.

★★★★

John Hume and some sections of the establishment media are making great play of their sudden discovery that the Brits have developed a new plastic bullet gun, called the Arven 37, capable of firing continuous rounds.

Long-term followers of Burke's at the back may recall learning of the new weapon, and seeing a photograph of it, in this column on July 22nd 1982.

In his regular Saturday column in the *Irish Press*, editor Tim Pat Coogan remarked last week:

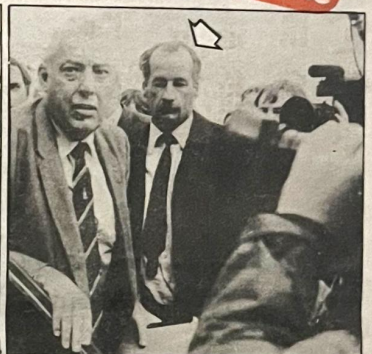
"The early indicators are that the major contribution of Mr Douglas Hurd to the situation will be the onomatopoeic (sic) qualities of his surname, which will no doubt be availed of to the full by Mr Burke of An Phoblacht for openers."

I totally reject the allegation that I would descend to such muck-raking journalism.

● Grim, Pat Slogan, Whiterock Road, Belfast

Some mistake surely?

BURKE'S AT THE BACK
By Kevin Burke



One of the many women arrested outside the Greenham Common nuclear war base in England was missing when her case came before a London court last Wednesday.

A begowned court usher was heard calling her name through the judicial corridors without success:

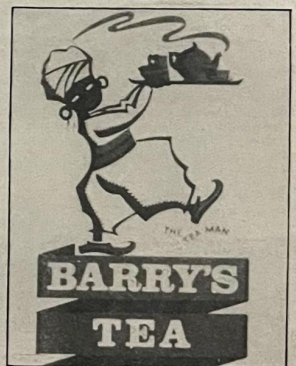
"Ms Sybil Liberties! Ms Sybil Liberties!"

What is the connection between the Pope and Ian Paisley? The answer is the Special Branch's Lone Star Ranger Jude Murphy, who rode shotgun to the Pope on his visit to the Free State in 1979 and to Ian Paisley on his visit on Wednesday this week.

BAD TASTE

One wonders how many foreign leaders meeting the Free State's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Peter Barry, are aware of the racist nature of the advertising by his tea company. As well as picking comfortable long-distance fights with South Africa's Christian Barnard, perhaps Barry Desmond will boycott his cabinet colleague?

And on the back of his packets of tea, Barry actually boasts of winning the Empire Cup for Tea Blending.



DÚIRT SIAD

"The national territory consists of the whole island of Ireland, its islands and the territorial seas. Pending the reintegration of the national territory and without prejudice to the right of the parliament and government established by this constitution to exercise jurisdiction over the whole of that territory, the laws enacted by that parliament shall have the like area and extent of application as the laws of Saorstát Éireann and the like extra-territorial effect." — Articles 2 and 3 of the 1937 Constitution.

"The wording of the Constitution is accidental, not intended." — Garret FitzGerald on ITV.

"Ulster remains part of the UK only because of violence or threat of violence." — John McMichael of the UDA.

"Right now I'm going to mount a personal vendetta against all four of you." — Radio Nova boss Chris Carey to journalists picketing the radio station.

"The IDB was not prepared to risk the stink which would have followed if he attended." — Unfortunate choice of words in Sinn Féin statement on the cancellation of an Industrial Development Board promotion to which Gerry Adams MP had been invited by mistake.

● JOHN McMICHAEL

NOTES
© CORMAC

