

AN
PHOBLACHT
Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING
POLITICAL WEEKLY



INSIDE THIS ISSUE



**Exclusive
interview
with IRA**

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BARRACKS BOMBARDED

TWENTY armed IRA Volunteers took part in a daring attack in County Fermanagh on Thursday night last, September 20th, during which the RUC barracks at Kinawley was blasted by mortar bombs.

The barracks has been attacked several times by the IRA and, in 1979, was

totally devastated by what was referred to at the time as a 1,200lb 'earthquake

bomb', towed to the barracks in a horse-trailer.

Last Thursday's attack began with the seizure of a Department of Environment lorry at Derrylin. While eight armed Volunteers kept guard, a squad of IRA engineers fixed the mortar tubes to the open back of the lorry.

Around 9pm the Volunteers moved the lorry into position

in Crawford's Lane off the Mohar Road. According to the IRA:

"The Volunteers ignored the personal risks they were taking and, coolly and calmly, planted the mortars under the glaring lights of the barracks' defences in plain sight of two watch-towers. The site we chose was not the most ideal but, after gathering our intelligence information on the barracks and carefully examining the

surrounding area, it was found to be the only site that would prevent nearby civilian property coming into the line of fire."

DIRECT HITS

The mortars were fired at 9.30pm and three of the mortar bombs scored direct hits on the barracks causing severe structural damage.

In a statement following the attack, South Fermanagh Brigade said:

"This meticulously planned attack, involving the movement of over 20 Volunteers with their weapons and equipment, demonstrates our ability to carry on the national liberation struggle despite SAS, RUC and UDR saturation, and we will pursue the crown occupation forces wherever they are to be found."

"Throughout this operation there was no risk at any time to civilians. When the Brits expelled people from their homes the following day, this was a purely cynical exercise by a humiliated enemy against an unsympathetic and hostile nationalist population."

BRIT SOLDIER SHOT

On Tuesday night, September 25th, an IRA Volunteer shot and seriously wounded a British soldier in Derry.

The British army foot patrol was passing Barrack Street junction, at the top of the Lecky Road flyover, when the Volunteer armed with a high-powered rifle fired a single shot. The Brit was hit in the leg and was seen to fall to the ground bleeding profusely. He was immediately flown to Musgrave Military Hospital for emergency treatment.



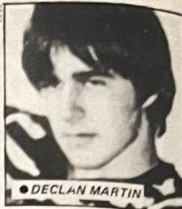
● Kinawley Barracks, September 1984 and (inset) March 1979 — the IRA bombs on



Salute to Dunloy Volunteers

IN A TRIBUTE to IRA Volunteers Henry Hogan and Declan Martin who were shot dead by an SAS team in Dunloy, County Antrim, on February 21st last, a three-person IRA unit fired volleys over their graves recently.

Because of the massive presence of crown forces in the Dunloy area after Volunteers Hogan and Martin were killed the traditional salute was postponed, but not forgotten, by their comrades.



• DECLAN MARTIN



• HENRY HOGAN

BARRY REBUFFED

COALITION Foreign Affairs Minister, Peter Barry, suffered a major rebuff on Sunday last when only 39 people turned up for a reception 'welcoming' him to New York.

At the same time, elsewhere in New York, thousands of people attended a rally in solidarity with the oppressed nationalist people of the six counties.

This Irish 'Solidarity Day' rally was addressed by speakers including Fr Des Wilson of Belfast, Irish Northern Aid spokesperson, Martin Galvin, and two members of the US Congress, Mario Biaggi and Benjamin Gilman.

The crowd, which far outnumbered previous solidarity demonstrations, was clearly angered at the events of August 12th in Belfast. They had seen on their television screens the RUC brutality and had heard first-hand accounts of this brutality from those Americans who were in Belfast that day.

In his speech, Mario Biaggi pledged that he would seek full Congressional hearings on Ireland at which Sinn Féin leaders would be witnesses. Benjamin Gilman outlined the testimony on the events of August 12th which was delivered at the hearing of an ad-hoc committee in Congress on September 6th.

THANKS

Thanking all those Americans who help the nationalists in occupied Ireland, Des Wilson said:

"Each day under British rule is an August 12th in which dignity is stripped away just as the



• MARTIN GALVIN

clothes are stripped from women prisoners in Armagh."

Martin Galvin praised the New York Police Emerald Society Band for its participation in a commemoration of the 1981 hunger-strikers which was held in Bundoran, County Donegal, earlier this month.

Besides calls for Irish re-unification, speakers condemned the attitude of the Dublin government in the North. This condemnation will certainly worry Leinster House politicians, given that the rally was supported by politicians, labour leaders and people prominent in Irish societies in America.



• Robinson and Carson on a pro-segregation march along Belfast's Shankill Road

NO MOVE ON MAGILLIGAN

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

BRITAIN'S minister with responsibility for prisons in the North, Nicholas Scott, made it clear on Wednesday this week that the British government was rejecting the demands for segregation of the ten loyalist hunger-strikers in Magilligan Prison.

In his first public statement on the issue, Scott claimed that prisoners' safety was ensured by "the vigilance of warders and the presence of quick reaction units" in the jail. His view was not shared however by DUP deputy-leader Peter Robinson, one of the prisoners' main negotiators, who sarcastically pointed out that the "quick reaction unit" did not react at all last September when 38 republican prisoners in the H-Blocks in Long Kesh walked free.

Scott's announcement, clearly

from Cabinet level, came on Wednesday afternoon, hours after the ten loyalist hunger-strikers suspended their hunger-strike for the second time.

They had resumed the protest briefly following the integration of four of the hunger-strikers with republican prisoners on the order of Magilligan's prison governor last Friday.

STUBBORN

Clearly, as with its attitude during the republican hunger-strike of 1981, the British government's

stubborn failure to recognise that the only logical policy which will succeed in maintaining safety in the jails is to segregate prisoners of obviously conflicting political loyalties.

Both republican and loyalist prisoners have equally indicated time and again in Magilligan that segregation is the only possible and acceptable solution to the crisis there. Sinn Féin elected representative Martin McGuinness pointed out in a statement on Wednesday that the prison governor in Magilligan was "using republican and loyalist prisoners as guinea-pigs in an experiment" which, if successful, he said, would "lead to the integration of republican and loyalists in Magilligan and Long Kesh".

As we go to press, the odds against loyalist politicians resuming negotiations looked bleak on Wednesday evening.

There is a very real prospect of the hunger-strike recommencing because of frustration on the part of the prisoners who may now welcome support from loyalist paramilitary groups to force the issue into quite a different sphere of action.

IRISH SPEAKERS MEAN BUSINESS

THE BBC in the six counties is preparing within the next few weeks to celebrate 60 years of broadcasting in the North.

At the same time a recently formed pressure group, Meán (which means media), is set to highlight the BBC's neglect of the Irish language, and to protest at the decision by that organisation to provide less than ten hours of programmes in Irish for the whole of 1985.

Commencing at 2pm on Satur-

day, September 29th, in the Mill, Conway Street, in West Belfast, a public meeting, organised by Meán, will be held to discuss the "lack of Irish language programmes on the BBC".

Delegates from over 40 cultural, civil liberty and political groupings will be attending the meeting which is sponsored by,



• Members of the Meán committee: Labhras Mac Oiric, Eamonn O Ceallaigh, Mairead Ní Chollaíne and Mairtin Ó Muilleoir

among others, Conradh na Gaeilge, the Belfast Irish daily *Lá*, Belfast *Glor na nGael*, Cumann Chluain Ard, An tOireachtas, the Association for Legal Justice, Sinn Féin and Fondúireacht an Phiarsaigh.

A spokesperson for the group,

Eamonn O Ceallaigh, said:

"No other community in Western Europe has been treated so badly by the state broadcasting company as the Irish-speaking community of Northern Ireland. Gaelic-speaking people in Scotland receive over

twenty hours of broadcasting per week in Gaelic yet they constitute a smaller percentage of the population than Irish speakers in the North. Irish speakers here will receive far less than ten hours broadcasting throughout the whole of 1985."



Any revolutionary organisation which is engaged in armed struggle has a duty and a responsibility to protect as best it can the people on whose behalf the struggle is being carried out.

IRA ON CRIME

THE ISSUE of punishment shootings and measures which the community can take to combat crime have been in the news in recent weeks following a number of punishment beatings carried out in Belfast. *An Phoblacht/Republican News* interviewed a spokesperson for the Irish Republican Army about the seemingly endless problem of crime in nationalist areas.

Q. What is the IRA's role and the community's role in dealing with the problem of crime in areas where the IRA has a presence?

A. Any revolutionary organisation which is engaged in armed struggle has a duty and a responsibility to protect as best it can the people on whose behalf the struggle is being carried out.

One has to look at the RUC's attitude to crime in republican areas to understand how they use it as a weapon of counter-insurgency — in a few cases capturing and prosecuting thieves to demonstrate that they are earnest but, in many cases, allowing criminals and hoods a free rein against the community, making it feel helpless, powerless and frustrated.

The RUC use criminals to demoralise the community, just as they have used the paid perjurers in the mass show-trials. Their ongoing attempts to break and recruit IRA Volunteers as agents are also aimed at showing up major breaches of community solidarity. Their attacks on republican funerals must be seen in the same light and the recent attempt to snatch Martin Galvin was aimed at humiliating the republican people of West Belfast in what would be seen as a republican stronghold.

The RUC use the incidence of crime in republican areas in a similar fashion and we pinpointed this a long, long time ago. Our first, early response was to carry out punishment shootings in the hope that such an imperfect form of rough justice would act as a deterrent.

However, we began to recognise that this was not having the desired effect — although it was some satisfaction to the

Exclusive interview with Irish Republican Army spokesperson

victims of the criminals and hoods — and the pressure from the community for IRA action never ceased.

Q. When did this change in attitude occur?

A. With the burst of political awareness in the wake of the H-Block hunger-strike, we attempted to refine the methods used to deter those who, consciously or unconsciously, were playing into the hands of the RUC by giving them an excuse to come into an area and by giving them low-level intelligence in return for immunity from prosecution.

These hoods were harassing the community through a whole series of actions including carrying out robberies in the name of the IRA and fencing stolen property from their counterparts in loyalist areas. Individuals and gangs would be involved in organised break-ins and muggings, others would be involved in rape, and at the other end of the scale were the joy-riders and those engaged in what I suppose would be called juvenile delinquency.

All of them give the IRA headaches, tie-down IRA resources and put the community under a great deal of pressure that it could do without.

Q. Yes, but how do you tackle the problems without becoming policemen?

A. The IRA, as I said, analysed the problem and categorised the criminal elements. However, the increasing level of crime — a lot of which is related to the social and economic conditions under which our people have been forced to live — and our

inability to cope with it totally, forced the community itself to take action and so we saw the street marches, the ad-hoc committees flourishing in Derry and Belfast.

These committees and Sinn Féin directly confronted some of the hoods and, through appeal or persuasion or social boycott, many agreed to no longer engage in harassing the community. The community gave an amnesty to these people in return for restitution where material damage was caused.

When the RUC decide to prosecute, those convicted would usually still have to go to jail and be punished, so you can see that the community's response is far more forgiving and generous.

Those who continue to rob and loot, however, have had to be dealt with other than through persuasion and so punishment squads have sprung up — many of which are not made up of IRA Volunteers, but which obviously need our backing to prevent organised retaliation from the hoods. They have no access to weapons and have often used hurley sticks when carrying out punishments. Reports that some of these hurleys have been doctored with nails are completely untrue and there is no way that we will tolerate or support steps in that direction.

The IRA, let me repeat, would prefer that it didn't have to engage in such measures but they are forced upon us by an oppressed community which can do without being oppressed from within by those who have no interest in peace or freedom and whose only interest is personal and selfish.

Q. There has been some controversy over the shooting in Belfast in June

of Jimmy Campbell. Have you any comment on this?

A. In the case of Jimmy Campbell the IRA decided, for the second time in two years, to carry out an execution of a leading criminal. If needs be, we will carry out the same measure again on other known, leading criminals.

The controversy over his death has been fuelled by, among others, members of his family and a close friend of his. Not too long ago, this friend approached the IRA to have him shot on the grounds that he was physically assaulting her.

Jimmy Campbell was once an IRA Volunteer. However, in recent years he took up the life of a criminal and while he stole from areas outside West Belfast he also carried out armed robberies in West Belfast. On one occasion, while robbing a club on the Falls Road, he physically assaulted club members. He turned the training which the IRA gave him, for which men and women have died, he turned that training against the people and his actions were intolerable.

Some valid criticisms have been made of the article in *AP/RN* which reported incorrect information that he was involved in crime from the late 1960s. Also, in the IRA statement claiming responsibility for his shooting, there were inaccurate references made to him being engaged in extortion but, apart from that, Jimmy Campbell was shot dead against the background of the use which the state makes of criminals in its counter-insurgency war against the community.

As there appeared to be wider concern and some misunderstanding, largely as a result of the wording of the IRA statement, the IRA carried out a detailed investigation. This showed that Jimmy Campbell, despite being wounded in a punishment shooting in the past, continued to engage in criminal activities and was thus executed.

The investigation concluded that there was no evidence to substantiate the allegation that he was involved in extortion. His family, understandably, have objected to him being labelled a 'counter-revolutionary'. It should be pointed out that given Jimmy Campbell's IRA background he, more than most, must have understood the counter-insurgency use which the RUC makes of crime in our areas.

Equality case won

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

MARY MULHALL, a nurse at St Dymphna's Psychiatric Hospital, County Carlow, has won her case of sex discrimination against the South Eastern Health Board in the Labour Court. She has taken the case because of the ban on female psychiatric nurses doing overtime, and the Labour Court has upheld her claim and awarded her £500 damages.

The Employment Equality Agency supported Mary Mulhall in taking the case, and are delighted at the outcome. They pointed out that one of the reasons that women's wages were still lower than men's, in spite of the equal pay legislation, was the incidence of regular overtime for men.

Aer Lingus and Aer Rianta workers have rejected the recommendation of the Labour Court of a 6% pay rise. A ballot of the two main unions, the FWU and ITGWU, showed a large majority against the acceptance of the Labour Court's finding.

The LGPSU has applied to the ICTU for an all-out picket at St Vincent's Hospital, Dublin, in support of the week-long strike at the hospital. The strike is over the dismissal of a catering officer.

Talks between the FUE, on behalf of the hospital, and the unions, on Monday, were deadlocked over the terms of reference for an impartial arbitrator. Phil Flynn, General Secretary of the LGPSU, said that the arbitrator would have to investigate wider issues than the dismissal of the particular worker.

Workers occupying nine Woolworths stores around the twenty-six counties are to vote on the latest redundancy offers recommended by the Labour Court. The workers, most of whom are members of the IDATU, have been occupying the stores for the last two weeks. Woolworths are threatening to withdraw the increased offer from those workers who vote against it, and dismiss them.

The strike at Dunnes Stores, Henry Street, is now beginning its eleventh



North Wales miners collecting for the NUM strike fund in O'Connell Street, Dublin

week. The twelve women and one man on the picket-line have been the target of harassment by gardai, and also report that scab delivery drivers have attempted to intimidate them.

The dispute, over the sacking of a worker who refused to handle South African produce, is still getting widespread support from trade unionists and the general public. The Anti-Apartheid Movement held a three-hour protest at Dunnes Stores in Cork on Saturday, September 22nd, in support of the striking workers.

The unofficial strike of more than

400 workers at the Irish Sugar Company's Carlow plant ended on Wednesday, September 26th, but the dispute which caused it continues. A ballot of all sugar workers in the twenty-six counties, taken last Monday, will decide whether or not strike notice will be served. The workers have rejected a Labour Court recommendation for pay increases of 3%.

Workers in the bacon processing trade have voted for strike action following a ballot on the recommendations from the Labour Court of phased pay rises of 4% and 2%. The 3,500 workers at the

30 factories involved have served two weeks strike notice.

Pay increases of 11% have, however, been agreed by four of the five big building societies in the South. The 11% is in marked contrast to that offered to other workers in the 24th round.

The ICTU have granted a request by ASTMS, representing striking workers at the New Ireland and Irish National Assurance Companies, for an all-out picket. The workers, members of the ITGWU and ASTMS, have rejected an offer of a 10% phased pay rise over 18 months.

Free travel for pensioners

PENSIONERS from all parts of Belfast picketed Belfast City Hall on Wednesday, September 26th, demanding that, like their counterparts in the Free State and Britain, they too should have free travel on public transport.

A six-strong delegation met the unionist Mayor Alfie Ferguson, and demanded that the City Council give the required subsidy to Citybus. The pensioners pointed out that electricity, food, gas and solid

fuel are all much more expensive in the North than in the twenty-six counties or Britain, and that consequently they could not afford the present high cost of travel.

Belfast Sinn Féin councillor Sean McKnight supported the pensioners' demand, although he added:

"Pensioners in rural areas have greater distances to travel and generally at greater expense. The demand therefore for free travel for pensioners should be extended to all pensioners living in the six counties."



BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

FREE STATE GOVERNMENT AND SDLP DESPERATE FOR FORUM RESPONSE

Appeals for a gesture

THE Irish establishment is becoming desperate. In the last month, both the Free State government and the SDLP have been multiplying appeals to the British government to make some gesture on the Forum report.

Any sign of recognition from our British masters would be welcome, they cry, anything to lessen "the alienation of the Northern nationalist minority" — to use the Irish establishment's pathetic euphemism for the emergence of Sinn Féin as a strong political voice.

This week, Free State Foreign Affairs Minister Peter Barry was once again at the forefront of the 'save the Forum' campaign. On Tuesday, September 25th, Barry used the opportunity of an address to the United Nations in New York to declare that there was now "much in common" in the Free State and British "perceptions of the Northern problem" — conciliatory words which, to Northern nationalists, sound like an admission of guilt.

The day before, Barry had addressed a group of Irish-Americans in New York and there too used the opportunity to pull Thatcher's sleeve.

But his declarations predictably included attacks on Noraid and on the IRA. And while Barry was in New York, Fine Gael TD Paddy Harte continued his tour of the States to recruit Irish-Americans into his 'Irish-American Community Network', the Fine Gael scheme to channel



● PETER BARRY

Irish-American support towards the Free State government and an attempt to counteract Noraid.

APOLOGIST

Embarrassed Dublin officials denied all



● DOUGLAS HURD

knowledge of Harte's scheme, and Noraid publicity director Martin Galvin said that as "the present Free State government was an apologist for British occupiers in the North" there was little chance of the Network ever getting off the ground

among Irish-Americans, still incensed by the recent acts of violence committed by the RUC and the Brits in the six counties.

On Tuesday, SDLP leader John Hume flew to America too, in order to do his bit for the Forum and FitzGerald. On Monday, he and some SDLP delegates had met the new British direct-ruler Douglas Hurd and had what the SDLP later described as "constructive and wide-ranging talks": Hurd sat quietly while the SDLP begged for a prompt gesture on the Forum report.

Some days previously, addressing a fringe meeting at the British Labour Party Conference, SDLP member Brid Rogers had complained of Britain's "inexcusable paralysis" on the issue.

As the date of the next Dublin/London summit gets closer, rumours are mounting of the British government's unwillingness to make any definite reply on any of the Forum recommendations. Panic is mounting in the Irish establishment that this may lead to the final demise of the SDLP.



Not an inch

THE DUP wants Stormont re-formed; with a few minor changes, of course, to reassure the 'minority'.

In the wake of the publicity generated by Paisley's foray into enemy territory — his trip to Dublin last week — the DUP has unveiled its document *Ulster — The Future Assured*.

It should be assured for the DUP at least, since they demand majority rule, the transfer of 'security' to the new devolved administration, and "military defeat of the IRA", with, of course, a bill of rights for the 'minority'!

After the Forum report, after

the Official Unionist document and the Alliance Party paper, Paisley's party has now thrown its card on Hurd's desk.

The DUP hope, like all the other unionists, that the Assembly will roll on for some more years. And it may well do so as long as the Brits are prepared to wait. Meanwhile, still flushed by Paisley's huge vote last June, the DUP has not moved an inch. The unionist 'change of heart' heralded by the Fitzgerald/Hume clique has not happened.

CATHOLIC, in his mid-thirties, born in the Lower Falls, Queen's University, then St Joseph's Teacher Training College.

This could be an identikit of an SDLP member. It is, in fact, John Cushnahan, the new leader of the moderate unionist Alliance Party. Replacing Oliver Napier who stood down last Saturday after over 11 years of leadership, Cushnahan announced "change in style, not in policy".

Publicly, the reason for Napier's replacement was given as 'time for a change'. However, the Alliance Party is increasingly worried at the decline of its vote: from 13.6% in the heady days of 1972 to a paltry 5% last June.

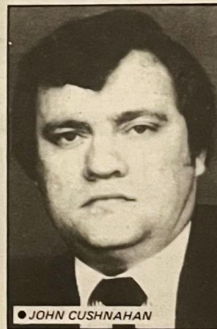
Middle-class Catholic voters have been deserting Alliance in order to prop up the SDLP under threat from Sinn Féin. And it is this trend which Cushnahan has been appointed to try and reverse.

APPOINTMENT

Cushnahan's claim to membership of the 'oppressed minority' was enhanced by his appointment in 1982 as chairperson of the new Assembly's Education Committee. At the time, the bigoted Harold McCusker violently objected to the appointment on the grounds that Cushnahan was a Catholic.

Cushnahan's teaching experience, let it be said in passing, must have been rather slim since, at the age of 26, he became full-time secretary of the Alliance Party. However, this would hardly matter in Stormont.

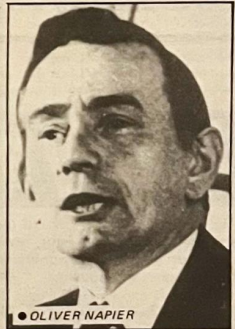
Cushy job for Cushnahan



● JOHN CUSHNAHAN

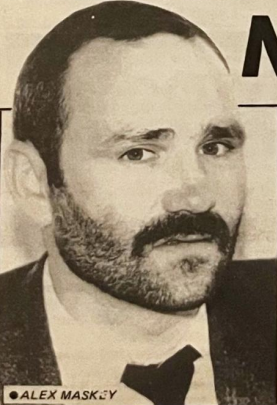
In order to regain some ground before next year's local elections, Alliance has decided to build up its 'Catholic' appeal, hence Cushnahan's appointment.

However, Alliance need not be



● OLIVER NAPIER

overly worried about its immediate political future, for its acceptability with the Brits and the Free State government comes from its middle-class drawing-room unionism, not from its electoral strength.



● ALEX MASKEY

MASKEY IN GERMANY

AS 130,000 British soldiers gathered in West Germany last week for 'Operation Lionheart', the biggest manoeuvre of the British army since the Second World War, German campaigners against these military manoeuvres were joined by Alex Maskey, Sinn Féin elected representative on Belfast City Council.

Throughout the week, from September 16th to 22nd, protestors from conservation, peace, religious and political groups in West Germany, carried out a disruptive campaign against Lionheart including blocking the movements of British military vehicles.

These activities culminated in a rally in the town of Hildesheim on September

22nd, attended by almost 15,000 people. At the invitation of the West German Peace Movement, Alex Maskey addressed the rally and he was very well received by the crowd.

During his speech Maskey ridiculed British claims that their role in Germany is to defend freedom. He said:

"I speak for a small nation that has known no national or basic civil rights. That freedom and those rights have been, and are still, denied to the Irish people by successive British governments."

Outlining the role of the British army and the RUC in the six counties, and listing specific examples of repression such as the murder of John Downes, killed by a plastic bullet on August 12th, Maskey pointed out that "military and strategic

reasons" determine British policy in Ireland.

And condemning the increased collaboration of the Dublin government in extraditing republicans to the six counties and the support they lend to NATO, Maskey warned:

"In reality, Ireland is neutral in name only and many Irish political leaders have made known their belief that Ireland's neutrality is not an ideological position."

"Sinn Féin believes in neutrality from the big power blocs and will continue to strive for Irish self-determination, not for chauvinistic or merely nationalist reasons, but to establish a free, democratic and socialist republic and develop relationships with the non-aligned countries, particularly within the Third World."

FORGOTTEN ESTATE

BY JANE PLUNKETT

RESIDENTS of the small Marian Park estate in Downpatrick, County Down, are growing increasingly desperate at the Housing Executive's failure to remedy the area's ever-increasing sewer rat problem, and at the Executive's neglect of essential repairs.

Known as the 'forgotten estate' by tenants, Marian Park consists of almost 50 houses built 30 years ago and is in need of a substantial refurbishing scheme. In addition, workmen have told residents that the rat problem cannot be solved unless comprehensive remedial work is carried out on the badly constructed sewerage system.

When the houses were built, the sewer pipes were not concreted into the soil and gaping holes exist around wastepipes passing through outside walls. Through these gaps, rats pass easily into cavity walls and into rooms.

STOP-GAP

In the kitchen of one house three weeks ago, a woman discovered a rat crawling up the leg of her six-months-old baby, who was lying in a baby-bouncer drinking her feed. Despite 'stop-gap' work carried out by Executive contractors, she told *AP/RN*, rats continue to infest the kitchen. Her daily, increasingly frantic phone-calls to the Executive have produced little response. Workmen have visited the house just once, but did no more than inspect a water tank.

The mother-of-two now does not dare to sit her baby daughter in a playpen, despite the importance of exercise to her development.

Residents complain that Executive officials lack both urgency and sympathy when contacted about the rat problem. Unfortunately,

ately, the tenants association on the estate is now defunct.

VERMIN

Last Tuesday afternoon, September 18th, Josephine and Patrick Davey discovered a dead rat lodged between the cavity wall and the waste pipe from their bath. Unable to extract the vermin without removing part of the wall, they contacted both the local council's sanitation department and the Executive, who gave the work 'emergency' priority.

But, despite repeated phone-calls and visits from the Daveys and from sanitation department officials, the Executive took three days to send out a workman to remove the vermin.

Josephine Davey says: "I'm sure they wouldn't have liked to be sitting with a rat in their own office for two or three days. The smell was overwhelming. All that time we couldn't use the bathroom or the kitchen, even to make a cup of tea. My two daughters, one's 11, the other ten, wouldn't sleep in the house."

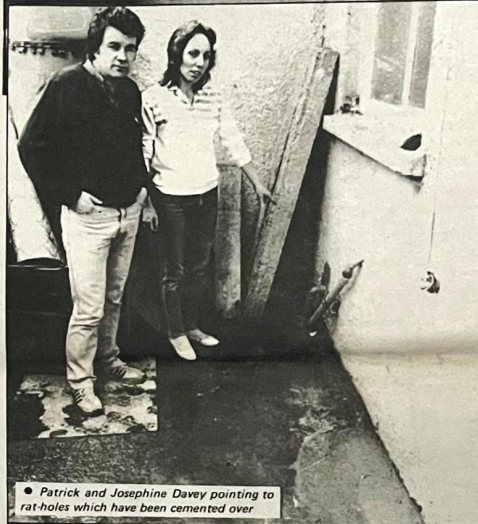
When workmen were at last sent, they filled in several gaping holes in the outer wall but stated that the rat problem could only be solved by more extensive work to lay concrete around pipes running below ground.

CONCERNED

Marian Park residents, Gerard and Elizabeth Smith, also recently discovered a rat in their bath-



● Marian Park, Downpatrick



● Patrick and Josephine Davey pointing to rat-holes which have been cemented over

room. Like other parents, they are extremely concerned at the serious health risks to their two-year-old daughter Laura.

Elizabeth Smith is also angry that the Housing Executive, two months after their initial promise, have failed to replace the kitchen sink unit, whose cupboards are unusable because of mould, or to provide a garden gate. In her opinion:

"The Housing Executive are useless, it's as simple as that. If you owed them money they wouldn't be long in doing something about it but if you want something done you never see them."

PRESSING

The plight of the 'forgotten estate' has recently been taken up by Downpatrick Sinn Féin, which has taken up individual tenants' cases and is also pressing the Executive to urgently carry out remedial work on the sewerage system, to swiftly complete all notified repairs, and to mount a comprehensive survey of repairs needed on the estate.

Elderly and handicapped ignored?

A RECENT SURVEY carried out in the New Lodge area of North Belfast by Sinn Féin, revealed an alarmingly high percentage of old age pensioners and disabled people living in totally inadequate housing.

At a meeting between Bobby Lavery, Sinn Féin representative for the New Lodge area, Miss Findlater, Housing Executive manageress and Jim Rafferty, Housing Executive assistant manager for the area, on Thursday, September 20th, 17 cases of inadequate housing conditions were laid before the Executive.

One such case is that of Mrs Pierce who has suffered from Parkinson's disease for the last

24 years. Due to her condition, she needs members of her family close at hand. Mrs Pierce was rehoused by the Housing Executive a year ago.

Herself, two daughters, her son-in-law and two grandchildren were allocated a three-bedroom house, where Mrs Pierce now has to be carried up and down the stairs to the bedroom and bathroom.

Although Miss Findlater and

Mr Rafferty seemed very sympathetic, they pointed out that the family needs for housing in the area were so great it would be difficult to see the problem of unsuitable accommodation being resolved in the near future.

PREFERABLE

Bobby Lavery suggested that a block of single-storey dwellings would be preferable to the usual two- or three-storey sheltered dwellings normally built for pensioners.

Miss Findlater stated the Housing Executive would look at the

possibility of building such dwellings as close to the area as possible and that they would also be investigating the 17 cases supplied by Sinn Féin.

In conclusion, Mr Lavery said: "I feel, overall, that local initiatives are not occasioned by the needs of the residents and the people on the ground, but rather must be tailor-made to fit overall Housing Executive strategy, which is dictated by harsh monetarist policy, which places book-balancing and kow-towing to Whitehall over the human requirements of those people most in need."



● MRS PIERCE

BALLYFERMOT FIGHTS BACK

BY BRENDAN KERR

OVER 300 people took part in an anti-drugs march in Dublin West's Ballyfermot area last Saturday, September 22nd.

The march, the first major action by the newly-formed Lower Ballyfermot branch of the Concerned Parents Against Drugs (CPAD) campaign, covered most of the huge Ballyfermot area in a trek which lasted the best part of two hours.

Despite several heavy downpours during the afternoon, the protestors kept up a constant stream of chants and the strength of community feeling was clearly evident.

Joining the locals on the march were CPAD members from neighbouring Inchicore, Dolphin's Barn and Teresa's Gardens.

APPEARANCE

Also there were two members of the religious order which runs the nearby Sarsfield Boys Home. Welcoming the appearance of the Concerned Parents Against Drugs in his area, one of them, Brother Gary, said that it was a pity that more of the clergy didn't actively support such initiatives.

After a brief meeting at the Church of Our Lady of the Assumption, the bulk of the marchers dispersed.

Whilst on their way home, however, a group of 70 or so decided to march to the home of a well-known local heroin dealer by the name of 'Pete'.

The cul-de-sac where 'Pete' lives rang to the chants of "Pusher Out!" and several neighbours came to their doors to watch as members of the local Concerned Parents approached the pusher.

UNDERTAKING

Clearly knowledgeable of 'Pete's' involvement in heroin dealing, the committee demanded an undertaking that he stop his deadly trade immediately or else face eviction.

Despite receiving this undertaking, some

people wanted the pusher evicted there and then:

"Even if he's not lying, he can't apologise to the dead kids for what he's done!"

The anger shown was proof that the people's earlier good humour hadn't blinded them to the serious side of the campaign against Dublin's heroin racket.

'Pete' has been 'put on probation' by those who have to live with him. If there's any more dealing by him, then he'll be put out of the area — and that goes for any other pushers in Ballyfermot.

Ballyfermot is fighting back. A Concerned Parents group for Upper Ballyfermot will be formed next Wednesday, October 3rd, in the Ballyfermot Community Association Hall.

The next meeting for Lower Ballyfermot will be on Wednesday, October 17th, in the Pigeon Club on Lally Road.

No evidence against McGlinchey

BY JANE PLUNKETT

DOMINIC MCGLINCHEY was returned for trial at Belfast's Crumlin Road Courthouse on Wednesday this week, after a swift and, in any normal legal terms, extraordinary preliminary inquiry which has confirmed that the RUC were able to secure his extradition from the Free State last March even though they had no evidence against him.

The court hearing thus also confirms that the Free State government's decision, in defiance of the Free State's constitution on political refuge, to hurriedly hand McGlinchey over to the treadmill of the North's colonial court system was motivated solely by political considerations.

At the opening of Wednesday's one-hour hearing, a crown lawyer stated that 29-year-old McGlinchey was charged with the killing on March 28th 1977, of Mrs Hester McMullan at her farm near Toomebridge, County Antrim. The lawyer stated that the attack had been directed against her RUC Reservist son.

The crown lawyer stated that the prosecution would not now be calling five civilian witnesses who had failed to turn up when the preliminary inquiry opened the previous day. The DPP had considered issuing warrants for their arrest, the lawyer stated, but had decided against this on the advice of RUC Chief Constable Jack Hermon.



During the remainder of the brief hearing, it became clear that the RUC and DPP could produce no evidence against McGlinchey that would be acceptable in any normal law court, whether from witnesses or other sources.

The crown claimed that McGlinchey's fingerprints were found on a red Volkswagen car allegedly involved in the incident.

BLATANT

In a blatant attempt to obscure the inconclusive nature of such fingerprint evidence, the crown lawyer also referred to an affidavit made by McGlinchey when

trying to avoid extradition from the Free State, in which he claimed he had been a member of an IRA unit operating in the South Derry area.

Introducing further prejudicial material, which by internationally accepted legal standards would be considered inadmissible, the crown claimed that McGlinchey's fingerprints had also been found on a getaway car used in an attack on Ahoghill RUC Barracks three months after the killing with which he is charged.

The crown also claimed that there were "similarities" between the attacks.

Such vague claims aside, under the terms of the extradition procedure the

RUC cannot bring additional charges against McGlinchey. By thus alluding to a second incident, the RUC have apparently contrived to turn this to their advantage, to accuse McGlinchey, while he himself will be denied even the token chance of a trial to defend himself of any involvement.

REMNANTS

The introduction of such material is also significant in indicating that the RUC, backed by the British government, intend at McGlinchey's forthcoming trial to dispense with a few more of what remnants of standard judicial procedure still survive in the North's Diplock courts.

Defending McGlinchey, solicitor Paddy McCrory pointed out that the crown's introduction of the affidavit and its "spurious" evidence relating to the second incident "reeked of prejudice".

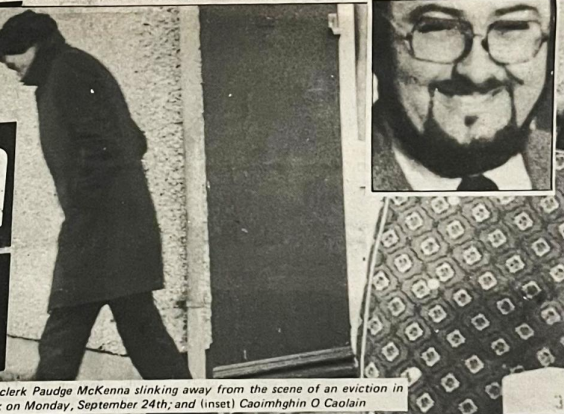
McCrory stated that the defence does not concede that the fingerprints found on the Volkswagen were McGlinchey's and pointed out that, if they were, there could be a thousand reasons why they got there innocently.

Attacking the "sheer artificiality" of the prosecution case, McCrory dismissed it as "a woebegone patchwork quilt of nods, hints, nudges and innuendo dressed up to look like evidence and stitched together to hide the nakedness of the crown case".

Magistrate Wishart Mills, unimpressed by the dubious legalities of the case and true to the standards of the North's Orange courts, without demur returned McGlinchey for trial.

Attack on Monaghan Sinn Fein

BY JACK MADDEN



● Monaghan town clerk Paudge McKenna slinking away from the scene of an eviction in Kieran Doherty Park on Monday, September 24th; and (inset) Caoimhghin O'Caolain

TROUBLE is brewing in Monaghan town this week following the announcement by town clerk Paudge McKenna that he will no longer deal with representations made on behalf of locals by Sinn Fein community activists.

Even though the position of town clerk is supposedly free of party political considerations, McKenna, in announcing his ruling to Sinn Fein spokesperson in Monaghan, Caoimhghin O'Caolain, on Monday this week, excu-

ed himself on the grounds that he was "instructed by my superior not to engage in any formal communications with Sinn Fein either by letter, phone or in person".

When asked by O'Caolain where such an instruction had originated,

McKenna refused to answer. Nor would he comment on the matter when contacted by *An Phoblacht/Republican News* on Wednesday.

Monaghan Sinn Fein has learnt, however, that senior members of both Fine Gael and Fianna Fail on the local Urban District Council made representations to 'have something done' about Sinn Fein in the area.

Establishment politicians in

Monaghan are concerned at the success of the local Sinn Fein advice centre which opened in the town (shortly before the EEC election campaign).

LAST RESORT

This centre, which was at first regarded as 'a last resort' by many people who wanted help in solving problems, is now seen as 'the line of first approach' according to

O'Caolain. He adds that supporters of all parties, and none, are welcome to the services provided by workers at the centre.

With the growth of the centre, people from throughout County Monaghan and some from County Cavan have come looking for help. This is partly explained by O'Caolain's candidature in the EEC election.

But, despite the huge support he won in Monaghan town, with 697 first preference votes, O'Caolain was refused co-optation to a seat on Monaghan UDC left vacant by Sinn Fein's Jim Lynagh, who is currently serving a sentence in Portlaoise.

This vindictiveness amongst councillors was not reflected by the town clerk until recently. According to Caoimhghin O'Caolain:

"As lately as September 3rd, when I had a meeting with Paudge McKenna in his office, he was totally co-operative. But since then all correspondence has been ignored and I have had difficulty in arranging a meeting to find out what was happening."

BOYCOTT

McKenna's boycott was carried still further when, in drawing up the agenda for the most recent UDC meeting, he failed to include a letter which Sinn Fein had sent to the council.

Comparing the Coalition boycott of Sinn Fein representatives to the adoption of a similar tactic in Monaghan, Caoimhghin O'Caolain points out that in both cases the motivation has been a reaction to Sinn Fein success in representing the needs of the working-class and the support which that success has won from Dublin Central to Monaghan. Adding that the Monaghan boycott would not deter Sinn Fein from working on behalf of people in the area, O'Caolain said:

"We would rather have co-operation, but if we aren't going to get that co-operation we are left with no alternative but confrontation to win Monaghan people their rights."

BALDOYLE BLOCKADE

RESIDENTS of the Moyclare estate in North Dublin blocked the Baldoye Road at the entrance to the estate on Monday, September 24th. They were protesting at the County Council's failure to provide a pelican crossing or to erect a sign indicating the entrance to Moyclare. The people say that they have been waiting for seven years for a crossing and that their children's lives are in danger.





Fíor-chumhach phobal na Gaeltachta

TÁ SÉ mar éileamh náisiúnta ag Sinn Féin béim a chur ar acmhúinní nádúrtha, tionscnaimh dhúchasa agus forbairt ghinearálta faoi chóras féin rialaithe. Níl áit níos mó tábhachta leis an gcóras seo ná sa Ghaeltacht.

Chun an fhorbairt seo a chur i gcrích a láithir na huairé níos mó leathnú a dhéanamh ar chumhacht agus ar fheidhm an Údarás.

Tá sé riachtanach leis go mbeadh ionadaíocht cuí, neamh pháirtí — polaitiúil ó gach ceantar nó réigiún Gaeltachta ar an mbord stiúrtha.

Tá géargháb le córas riaracháin áitiúil sna ceantachtaí nó sna réigiúin a bheadh faoi stiúir an Údarás agus go mbeadh cumhachtaí aige maidir le hiascaireacht, oideachas, feirmeoireacht, turasóireacht, tionscal, ceannach agus díol talún — a stiúrdh gach gné de shaoil na Gaeltachta.

FOSTAÍOCHT

Faoi láithir, is cosúil gurb í feidhm an Údarás ná tionscal de shaghas ar bith a mhealladh pé acu an bhfuil éifeacht leis nó nach bhfuil.

Creideann Sinn Féin go gcaithfead pleanáil fad téarmach a dhéanamh chun acmhúinní nádúrtha an cheantair a úsáid chun traenáil a chur ar fáil do lucht oibre na Gaeltachta.

OIDEACHAS

Le freastal ceart a dhéanamh ar riachtanaisí oideachais na Gaeltachta ní mór córas oideachais go háirithe ag an dara agus an tríú leibhéal a chur in oiriúint don nGaeltacht.

Leis na blianta anuas sín polasáí atá i bhfeidhm ná iarracht a dhéanamh ar scoileanna a dhúnadh uair amháin go dtuieann an tinnreann.

Creideann Sinn Féin gur cheart cumhacht a bheith ag an Údarás stop a chur lena leithéid seo agus a chinntiú go gcoiméadtar ar oscailt iad agus go spreagar daoine le freastal orthu seachas ar scoileanna sa Ghalltacht.

AN GHAEILGE

Tuigimíd nach "ádhbar cultúir" amháin í an Ghaeilge do mhuintir na Gaeltachta, ach gnáth theanga labhartha nach mór a aithní mar phríomh mheán cumarsáide.

Caithfead stádas agus seasamh a thabhairt di i ngach gné den gcóras oideachais agus sa saol poiblí trí sheirbhísí riachtanacha a chur ar fáil sa mheán sin.

Caithfidh an gnáthphobal a bheith in ann plé gan stró le gach

mbliain ann go dtagann iascairí faoi bhrú agus nach féidir leo leanúint go rialta leis na hiocaíochtaí.

Tá córas sádsúil riachtanach dóibh siúd atá ag déanamh iarracht macánta an tairgead a íoc.

IASCAIREACHT

Ó ghlacamar amach ballraíocht sa chomhargadh tá slad agus áir déanta ar thionscal na hiascaireachta.

Toisc go mbraitheann mórán de phobal na Gaeltachta ar an iascaireacht mar shli beatha, is gaird nach mbeidh sin féin acu má leanann cúrsaí mar atá. Ní mór forbairt agus leathnú a dhéanamh ar an dtionscal agus béim a chur ar mhonarchain próiseála, ionaid deataithe éisc agus mar sin de.

Tá córas nua iascaigh a treastáil seachas iascairí a bheith ag brath ar Bhord Iascaigh Mhara agus ar na bainc agus iad ag ceannach bád nua.

Caithfead a ghlacadh san áireamh go mbeonn uaireanta den

TURASOIREACHT

De bharr áilleacht na gceantar Gaeltachta agus an Ghaeilge a bheith mar ghnáth theangaiúnta is tionscal ana thábhachtacht é an turasóireacht. Ach ní mór stop a chur láithreach le heachtrannaigh, lucht Béarla agus lucht rachmais nach suim leo an Ghaeltacht, ó bheith ag teacht isteach ag ceannach stráicí móra talún.

Ce gur minic baill tofa d'Údarás na Gaeltachta ag déanamh gearáin láidir faoi chúrsaí bóithre, córas uisce, córas teilleadh, córas iompair poiblí, seirbhís sláinte agus bunriachtanaisí eile ní ar a gcumas an rud fiúntach a dhéanamh ina dtaobh toisc nach mbeainnean leithéid le réimse cumhachta an Údarás.

Caoimhín Mac Cathmhaoil

Ó Bhéal Átha na Múice i gContae Mhaigh Eó ó thúis do Chaoimhín Mac Cathmhaoil, ach tá cónaí air anois ins Na Forbacha, i gComamara agus tá aithne mhaith air i gContae na Mí freisin.

Faid a bhí sé i Maigh Eó bhí diúlt bhaire aige le Cumann Luthchleas Gael agus bhí sé gníomhach in agóidí maidir le drochtaid na mbóithre agus maidir le cúrsaí iascaigh.

I 1965 bhí sé ar dhuine de na daoine a bhunaigh Conradh ath

ghabhála na nUisce Náisiúnta faic a bhí aighneas ar siúl i gComamara agus i Maigh Eó maidir le húsc, sruthlonta d'iascach bradáin.

Mar dhíodóir, chosain sé mórán de na hiascairí a tugadh ós comhair na cúirte ag an am.

Dar leis nach bhfuil leath go leor cumhachta ag an Údarás chun beart fiúntach a dhéanamh do phobal na Gaeltachta.

"Tá na bóithre is measa sa tír san iarthar agus fós ní fiú an méid cumhachta ag an Údarás is a ligfeadh dóibh faic a dhéanamh chun iad a theabhsú."

Irial Mac Murchadha

IS AS Rinn Ó gCuanach i gContae Phortlárige d'Irial Mac Murchadha agus tá bliain is fiche sláinte aige.

D'fhreastal sé ar scoil Náisiúnta na Rinne, ar Mheánscoil San Níoclás sa Rinn, agus ar an gColáiste Réigiúnach i gCathair Phortlárige mar ar bhain sé amach a dhintúirí mar níheineoir.

Tá sé ag iascaireacht anois mar shli beatha le dhá bhliain go leith anuas agus ar an ábhar sin tá ró-thairbh aige ar na fadhbanna a bhaineann leis an dtionscal céanna agus ar an mbaol ina bhfuil sé ó pholas aithe rialtais Átha Cliath agus an Chomhargaidh.

Ina dhéagóir dó bhí sé ana ghníomhach i gcúrsaí ágeagrais sa Ghaeltacht agus bhí sé ina bhall

de Choiste Náisiúnta Ógais i 1979. Is ball de Chonradh na Gaeilge faoi láithir é.

CLEACHTAITHE

Ag maireachtaint dó i gceann de na ceantachta Gaeltachta is íú sa tír tá sé cleachtaithe leis na deacrachtaí a dtugann pobal beag Gaeltachta aghaidh orthu ó lá go lá ó thaobh cúrsaí oideachais, talún, feirmeoireachta agus teangan.

"Má theastaíonn ó aoine in aon Gaeltacht plé a dhéanamh le ranna rialtais, nó fiú le Comhairlí Condac, is i mBéarla de ghnáth a chaithear é a dhéanamh."

"Gan córas éigin a thabharfadh cumhacht ceart do phobal na Gaeltachta ní i ndán don Údarás, ach leanúint leis an dteip atá tuais a bheith air go dtí seo."



● Forbairt atá ag teastáil sa Ghaeltacht seachas an cúlú atá ann anois

TÁ SINN FÉIN ag dul san iomaíocht i dtoghchán d'Údarás na Gaeltachta a thionólfar ar an 17ú Deireadh Fómhair, ar an mbonn go gcreidimid go bhfuil teipthe glan ar an aonad sin fiú a adhmanna luaite a chur i gcrích.

Dar leis an Acht Um Údarás na Gaeltachta 1979 sé'n príomh chuspóir atá aige ná:

1. Tionscal a bhunú do phobail na Gaeltachta;
2. Forbairt na Gaeltachta a chur chun cinn ó thaobh cúrsaí teangan, cultúir, sóisialachta, gnéithiúlachta agus géilleagair.

Cé go bhfuil feabhas áirithe ar chúrsaí fostaíochta i roinnt ceantar Gaeltachta ó bunaíodh an tÚdarás, tá lear mór de fhothracha folamha scaipthe ar fuaid na gceantar Gaeltachta áit ar spreagadh infheistíocht go minic ag comhluchtaí ilnáisiúnach

eachtrannacha a is a bhí a gaird

Cé go mbeonn air na Gaeilge reathóirí na Ga is minic nach ríocht nóg ar

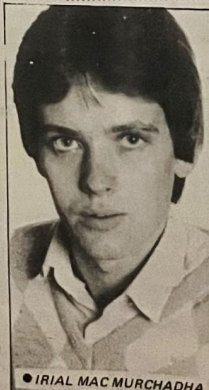
Creideann S eacnamaíochta Níl san tÚda

éileach de chui Is ró-lén de pobal is iú láb

san aireacht bhfuil iascairí leis.

Dá mbeadh láimha an U

gníomh iomraí cuimsítheach acu.



● IRIAL MAC MURCHADHA

Breandán Ó Rathall

FEAR PÓSTA 62 bliain d'aois is ea Breandán Ó Rathall a bhfuil cónaí air i Rann na Feirste, Tir Chonail.

Tá sé ina bhall de choiste scoil náisiúnta Rann na Feirste agus bhí sé gníomhach i bhfeachtas a mhair seacht mbliain ag pobal na háite chun cead a fháil cur leis an scoil sin. D'éirigh leo sa deireadh i 1983.

Bhí sé gníomhach freisin sa troid le scoil Ghaelach a bhunú i nGaith Dobhair agus le linn an ama sin bhí sé mar bhall thoscaireacht a chuaigh chun bualadh le hairí rialtais Átha Cliath faoin geist.

Faid a bhí cónaí ar Bhreandán i mBéal Feirste imtheoradh é i bpríosún Bóthar Chroimhline ó

mhí Eanáir 1967 Fómhair 1960.

Le linn aon Bhloc i 1961 m chathairleach na nGleann.

Tá Breandán airm gur cheannintú má chinnití iompar taif go mba ch leagan amach.

Ghaeilge foghlaim Dar leis, ní

atá ag pobal

Údarás faoi lá

"Tá sé na

ionadaíocht

Údarás ag p

chun go bhf

dáiríre a dhé

ht do chta



acha a ghlan leo amach chomh luath
gcuid deontaisí móra faighte acu.
maíonn an tUdarás go spreagann sé labh-
aíle sna monarchana tá fhios ag oib-
na Gaeltachta gur a mhalaírt atá fíor-
nach mbíonn focal Gaeilge ag an mbain-
á ag an bhfoireann stiúrtha.

ann Sinn Féin nach leigheasfaidh forbairt
ochta amháin fadhbanna na Gaeltachta.
Udarás faoi láithir ach institiúid truamh-
chuid rialtas Átha Cliath.

éir do phobal na Gaeltachta gurb iad an
ú tábhachta ag an rialtas céanna agus gan
cht Ghaeltachta ach trian d'aireacht ina
scaireacht agus foraoiseacht in éineacht

bheadh iarracht mhacánta ar bun ní bheadh
Udarás ceangailte mar atá ó thaobh
onaic don nGaeltacht, agus bheadh plean
each ceaptha agus curtha i gcrích fadó

laigh

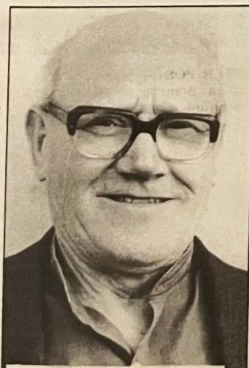
57 go dtí Deireadh

gile ocras na H-
phfí Breandán mar
ar choiste H-Bhloc

go láidir den dtu-
rt don Udarás a
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h, ins na Gaeltach-
eart teora arna a-
nún go mbeadh an
nte acu.

eor an ionadafocht
Gaeltachta ar an
r.

trach go mbeadh
úf ar Bhórd an
al na Gaeltachta
dfer an iarracht
sh.



●BREANDAN O RATHALLAIGH



●"You'd think the guards would push the pushers, instead of pushing us around"

Worse crimes than street-trading

BY ERIC McALLISTER

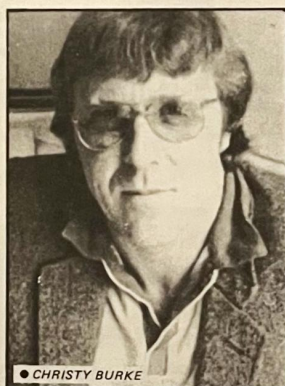
THE street-traders of Henry Street, Talbot Street, and North Earl Street in Dublin's city centre suffer threats from the gardai every day of their working lives. They have almost become used to indignity, to being pushed around, roughed up, summoned and fined. But over the last two years there has been a huge increase in garda harassment and violence, and in the number and size of the fines they face.

Their crime, against which so much of the energy and time of the local gardai is directed, is to try and make a living. They sell flowers, fruit and vegetables and inexpensive jewellery from prams and stalls. They point out that others sell heroin on the streets and do not appear to get the harassment that the traders suffer.

COMPETING

With growing unemployment, more and more people have come on to the streets to sell their goods. Now there are up to 60 or 70 street-traders competing amongst each other for business in just three streets. Street-trading is controlled by Dublin Corporation which issues permits and licences. A permit entitles you to sell goods from a particular spot. But unlike the longer-established and better-organised street-traders in nearby Moore Street, these stall-holders cannot get permits from the Corporation.

And the gardai, egged on by big stores like Arnotts, Roches and Dunnes, keep moving the women on, or arresting them. Dunnes Stores, which is currently involved



●CHRISTY BURKE

in a dispute with its workers over the sale of South African goods, is said by the street-traders to be particularly vindictive.

A few of the women have had to go to prison because they could not pay the fines of £50, £100 and £200 imposed by the District Court. Others have arranged to pay theirs off in weekly installments of £10. To pay the fines, they have to sell from their stalls in the streets.

ANGRY

Some of the women are involved in local Concerned Parents Against Drugs groups. They are especially angry at being punished by a court, which sometimes even in the same session gives drug pushers and

'dippers' (pickpockets) the benefit of the Probation Act. One street-trader said:

"There's loads of times I was in that court and there were fellas there charged with possession of heroin and pushing and they walked free, yet I was fined. You'd think the guards would push the pushers, instead of pushing us around."

One garda, Sergeant Moore, known as 'the mad sergeant' by the street-traders, is particularly zealous in the performance of this duty. "He never hit me", said one woman, "but then I never waited to find out if he would or not. The minute I heard he was around, I'd get the hell out of there."

While covering this story, a photographer for AP/RN was assaulted in North Earl Street by the same sergeant as he was photographing the traders being moved on.

SOLUTION

Christy Burke of Dublin Sinn Féin has called for an end to garda harassment and attacks on these women. He points to a straightforward solution to the problem which would provide that more licences be issued by Dublin Corporation to traders, especially to those who have been trading in this area legally all their lives and who were robbed of their livelihoods last year by the new Street Trading Act; that traders be allowed to share licences, taking a few days per week each; and that the women concerned be treated with dignity and respect by the authorities.

Burke says: "These women simply want the right to work. The treatment they have received in pursuit of that right at the hands of the authorities has been disgraceful and no decent man or woman can stand over it."

BY JACK MADDEN

THE EVENTS of August 12th, when the anti-internment commemoration rally in Belfast was attacked by the RUC, have been recorded by Sinn Féin in an excellent booklet entitled *The slaying of John Downes*.

This booklet combines text and photographs to illustrate the sequence of events leading from the banning of Noraid spokesperson, Martin Galvin, to the murder of John Downes and the subsequent reaction of the media, the clergy and establishment politicians to what had happened.

Emphasising that Galvin's exclusion was a sop to loyalists, demonstrated by the fact that it was opposed by the British ambassador in America, the booklet traces the harassment which the remainder of the Noraid delegation endured as they travelled through the six counties.

Moving on to the anti-internment march and rally, the good-humoured atmosphere amongst the demonstrators is contrasted with the antagonistic approach of the crown forces:

"Even as he (Gerry Adams) began his speech, RUC men already on the roofs of the shops opposite loaded up their guns with plastic bullets."

Through eye-witness reports and a series of photographs, the RUC attack on the peaceful demonstration is described. A freelance reporter relates how John Downes died while courageously rushing forward to help a friend who was being beaten by a group of RUC men.

BRUTALITY

The terror and panic both inside and outside Connolly House are vividly recalled by those who suffered the brutality of the RUC, including Michael Reilly's account of the circumstances in which he was shot in the face by a plastic bullet. Indeed, 108 plastic bullets were fired by the RUC who originally claimed that less than three dozen had been fired.

Unionist approval of the attack, muted calls for an inquiry from the establishment media, political and Catholic church leaders, are chronicled.

An interesting article which puts the RUC attack of August 12th into its historical context is also included. The plastic bullet and its lethal effect in nationalist

deaths and injuries is examined.

The response of the people of Belfast to what one eye-witness describes as an "absolute, unprovoked massacre" is recorded in the defiance of the black flag march on August 13th and the thousands who attended the funeral of John Downes.

In conclusion, this booklet exposes

the state violence endured by the nationalist people in the six counties and records the determination of these same people to resist that violence.

Copies of the booklet are available from Sinn Féin, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, or 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast. Price £1.30, plus postage. Bulk rates on request.

The slaying of JOHN DOWNES



Plastic bullet factory picketed

RELATIVES and victims of both rubber and plastic bullets travelled to Scotland last weekend to picket the Brocks factory, in Dumfriesshire.

According to the United Campaign against Plastic Bullets, which organised the picket, "it is believed that this factory is the new source of plastic bullets since the American ban on their export".

The group of 14 relatives and victims included the brother of John Downes, the most recent victim of the lethal weapon, Mrs Bernadette Livingstone, whose daughter Julie, aged 14, was killed by a plastic bullet, Mrs Kathleen Stewart, whose son Brian,

aged 13, was also killed by a plastic bullet and Mrs Emma Groves who was blinded by a rubber bullet over ten years ago.

They left Belfast early on Saturday morning, September 22nd, and travelled by boat to Stranraer in Scotland and then on to the Brocks factory. There they were met by several dozen people from various support groups in Glasgow, including Sinn Féin, who had brought with them sandwiches and tea for the travellers.

The picket commenced at around 11.30am in freezing weather and lasted just under two hours. Mrs Kathleen Stewart handed a letter of protest in to Mr Richard Baxter, owner of the factory, in which the relatives and the United Campaign against Plastic Bullets called on Brocks to stop making the weapon.

The picket received considerable media interest and coverage, and a statement from 16 British Labour MPs, three MEPs and others, including Ken Livingstone of the GLC, pledged support for the picket and called for a complete ban on plastic bullets.



Garda heavy tactics

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

DEREK FOWLER, a 21-year-old man from Finglas, Dublin, is presently serving a 12-month sentence in St Patrick's Institution for house-breaking.

On Thursday, September 6th, Derek Fowler went to the Baggot Inn with some friends. Shortly after, the pub was surrounded by nearly 30 gardai from Store Street Barracks, accompanied by one garda from Finglas. They charged into the pub, batoning people and knocking over tables to get at Fowler, and a near-riot erupted. When they managed to get hold of Fowler, the gardai began

beating and kicking him, and almost strangled him even before they left the pub.

His mother, Mrs Fowler, was informed by people concerned for Derek Fowler's safety after they had witnessed the scenes in the Baggot Inn, and she immediately tried to find out where her son was.

She was finally allowed to see him in Finglas garda barracks, and was shocked at his appearance. His

clothes were torn, his face and body bruised and his mouth bloodied.

"He was unrecognisable", says Mrs Fowler, who intends to take a case of assault against the gardai on Derek's behalf. After a great deal of trouble and expense, she managed to get a solicitor and a doctor in to see her son that night and both will testify that he was badly beaten.

Mrs Fowler does not deny that Derek was involved in the house-breaking, but says that there was no need for so many gardai to arrest him as he is not a violent person, and says that she will not allow them to get away with the assault on him.



● MRS FOWLER

COURT FARCE RUSHED THROUGH

BY JANE PLUNKETT

THE formal charging took place in Belfast's Crumlin Road Courthouse last Friday, September 21st, of 32 men accused on the word of self-styled former INLA member, Harry Kirkpatrick.

The hearing marks the completion of manoeuvres by crown representatives involved in the case to leap-frog the customary procedure of returning defendants for trial through the preliminary inquiry procedure. Following last May's brutal RUC courtroom attack on defendants, the Kirkpatrick preliminary inquiry was abandoned.

A new hearing was subsequently ordered but, circumventing this, in June, British Attorney General, Sir Michael Havers, made use of the once virtually obsolete Bill of Indictment procedure (which, as part of the RUC's paid-perjurer strategy, has enjoyed a new vogue) to return the defendants for trial, without establishing *prima facie* evidence.

The defendants have been incriminated in a total of 197 charges, including killings, attempted killings and INLA membership, by Kirkpatrick, whom the RUC have led to expect a swift release from the life sentence he is currently serving — and a substantial financial settle-

ment — in return for his court testimony.

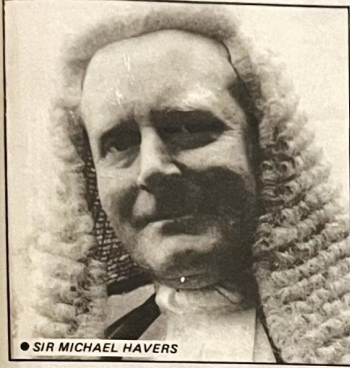
At Friday's court formalities, there were long delays as the defendants refused to identify themselves. All but five refused to enter pleas, on the grounds that the use of paid-perjurers is a legal farce.

Kirkpatrick's sister Michelle Dorrian, who is among those accused, was not present. She is currently undergoing surgery in the Mater Hospital and will be charged separately.

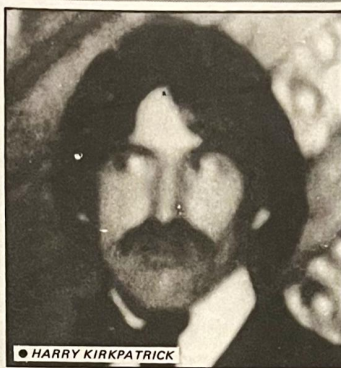
There was a further delay when defence lawyers called for the indictment to be thrown out and accused the crown of "leap-frogging" the customary legal procedures.

One lawyer described the Attorney General's action as "secret proceedings held behind closed doors".

His arguments carried no weight with Judge Hutton who, alluding to the British state's comprehensive powers of legalised repression in the six counties, arrogantly — and accurately — observed that Havers is under no legal obligation to explain his actions.



● SIR MICHAEL HAVERS



● HARRY KIRKPATRICK

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

A FOUR-PERSON official delegation from the British Labour Party visited Belfast at the weekend and met relatives and two former prisoners who have undergone strip-searching.

The four delegates represented the Greater London Regional Labour Party Women's Committee who, last November, overwhelmingly passed a resolution at conference calling for an immediate end to strip-searching in Armagh.

On Saturday, the delegation, Kate Flannery, Sara Roelofs, Deborah Knight and Stephanie Green, spoke at length to the relatives of remand prisoners Marie Wright and Siobhan O'Hanlon. They also spoke to former prisoners Linda Quigley and Brieghe-Ann McCaughley, who was strip-searched before her release on Monday, September 17th, after serving seven years imprisonment.

Labour women visit POWs

In the afternoon, they visited two remand prisoners in Armagh who graphically detailed strip-searching and the arguments against its continuation.

Kate Flannery said:

"Obviously we were aware of the procedures being carried out in the jail, but talking to women who have endured strip-searching really brought home to us the extent of the humiliation and degradation which this form of harassment entails.

"The message we will take back to London is that the prisoners in Armagh are dependent on women outside to continue campaigning and to keep up the pressure to end strip-searching."



● (From left to right) Deborah Knight, Kate Flannery, Stephanie Green and Sarah Roelofs

More support for Armagh women

A BELFAST COMMITTEE of the campaign against the strip-searching of women prisoners in Armagh Jail was set up at a well-attended public meeting in the Conway Street Mill on Sunday afternoon, September 23rd.

Among the 200 people who crowded into the hall were former POWs, numerous relatives of Armagh prisoners, students and representatives of a variety of political groups.

Sinn Féin Councillor Sean McKnight opened the meeting and introduced the first speaker, Chris McAuley of Sinn Féin's POW Department, who outlined the facts on strip-searching, saying that the NIO's attempt to justify the searches on 'security' grounds is completely without foundation.

Brieghe-Ann McCaughley, who was released on Monday, September 17th, after seven years in Armagh, described her own experience of being strip-searched. A moving appeal to everyone present to work all-out in the campaign came from Madge McArdle, whose daughter Mary is on remand in Armagh Prison.

A 12-person committee was elected, strongly representative of ex-POWs and relatives, to spearhead the Belfast campaign. A picket on the prison is planned for November 11th, to mark

the second anniversary of the introduction of the strip-search policy. Plans for further action include a torchlight protest march, and a concerted lobby of trade unions, women's groups, political groups and the clergy.

Elsewhere in the six counties, action groups continue to publicise the issue. On Saturday, the South Down group held a five-hour vigil in Downpatrick's Market Street, where they received a very sympathetic response from local people and collected nearly 700 signatures for the national petition which calls for an immediate end to strip-searching in Armagh Jail.

CHALLENGE

West Belfast MP Gerry Adams has challenged Brit direct-ruler Douglas Hurd on the strip-searching of women prisoners in Armagh. In a statement issued on Monday, September 24th, Adams said:

"Since the barbarous practice of strip-searching was introduced in November 1982, almost 2,000 strip-searches have taken place. Some of the women on remand have been strip-searched twice in the space of 20 minutes."

Pointing out that nothing of any



● A section of the large crowd which attended the public meeting on strip-searches in Conway Street Mill, Belfast

significance to 'prison security' has ever been found during a strip-search, Adams concluded:

"There can be no doubt that the administration's decision to introduce, and maintain, strip-searching is purely and simply a vindictive attempt to break the morale of the women prisoners."

The campaign has also spread to Sligo, where a meeting will be held at the beginning of October. An ex-prisoner is to address Sligo Trades

Council on the issue. Also in October, a public meeting will be held in Shanahan, County Clare.

London Sinn Féin have organised a week of action, and in Donegal the photographic exhibition on strip-searching and the Armagh regime will be taken round the county, during a week of meetings and protests against strip-searching.

In Monaghan, where there is a particularly active committee, local doctors, elected representatives and

prominent people are being approached to sign the petition and to lend their support to a planned major indoor public meeting in October. In a letter to the *Northern Standard*, the Monaghan paper, Sister Dominic, on behalf of the Sisters of St Louis, has condemned the practice of strip-searching saying:

"Because of my horror and disgust, I wish to protest in the strongest terms that women should be subjected to such humiliation and degradation."

INDIACHUIMHNE

BRYSON, Jim. (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Jim Bryson who was murdered on September 22nd 1973. St Jude, pray for him. Always remembered by his friends Micky and Rita Walker and Kate McQuinn.

BRYSON, Jim. (11th Anniversary). In memory of Vol Jim Bryson who was murdered by the British army in collaboration with a pro-Brit murder gang. From his comrade Malachy McCorry (Portlaoise).

FORSYTHE, Martin. (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Belfast Brigade, who was killed in action on September 24th 1971. I measc laochra na nGael go raibh a anam. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

McDERMOTT, Terence. (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Terence McDermott 1st Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was killed in action on October 2nd 1971. I measc dílis. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

McDERMOTT, Terence. (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Terence McDermott 1st Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on October 2nd 1971. Fuair sé bás ar troid ar son saoirse. Always remembered by Belfast Sinn Féin.

Ó CONAILL, Seán. (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Seán Ó Connail who died in Parkhurst Prison, Isle of Wight, on October 1st 1977, due to medical neglect. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Republican Movement.

Ó CONAILL, Seán. (7th Anniversary). The Republican Movement (Britain) remembers with pride Seán Ó Connail who died in Moorgate Southampton Hospital on October 1st 1977, as a result of medical neglect by the British prison authorities.

QUIGLEY, Jimmy. (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Jimmy Quigley, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on September 29th 1972. Fuair sé bás

ad troid ar son nuair na hÉireann. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

QUIGLEY, Jimmy. (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Jimmy Quigley, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was killed in action on September 29th 1972. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis. Always remembered by the Lower Falls Commemoration Committee.

QUIGLEY, Jimmy. (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my young friend and comrade 17-year-old Vol Jimmy Quigley, 'D' Coy, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was killed in action on Friday, September 29th 1972. We will never forget your sacrifice. We will not rest until the dream of peace and freedom is realised. Never forgotten by Danny.

REILLY, Jim. (4th Anniversary). The Republican Movement (Britain) remembers with pride their friend and comrade Jim Reilly who died in hospital on September 26th 1980. There can be no let up until our country is free, united and socialist.

REILLY, Jim. (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our friend Jim Reilly who died on September 26th 1980. Sadly missed by all his comrades in the Roger Casement Sinn Féin cumann, London.

REILLY, Jim. (4th Anniversary). The Connolly/Keenan Sinn Féin cumann, England, remembers with pride our comrade Jim Reilly. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

REILLY, Jim. (4th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our comrade and friend Jim Reilly. Your loss is sorely felt but we will continue your work for freedom. From Gerry and Val, London.

REILLY, Jim. (4th Anniversary). In proud memory of our dear friend Jim Reilly. Always remembered and sadly missed by the Holden family, Hemel Hempstead, England.

Sligo, who died on September 14th. From the Republican Movement, Sligo.

McCANN, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Sally McCann who died recently. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for her. From her friend Liam Adams.

COMHBHRÓN

HAMILL. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Hughie Hamill. Martin Savage Terr.

BEANNACHTAN

CLARKE, Seamus; KELLY, Tony. Happy 1st anniversary. May you have lots more and hope you are all keeping great. From your loving sister Nora, London, UTP.

DONNELLY, Vincent; BRADY, Martin; GLENHOLMES, Richard. (Eggs). All our very best wishes on your birthdays. Regards to the POWs with you. From Raymond, Mary and Patrick, Buncrana.

KELLY, Tony. Congratulations on your first year of freedom. Hope you have many more! UTP. From Donna and Ray.

McKENNA, Laurence. (Portlaoise). Birthday greetings on September 30th, Laurence. Another year older and deeper in it. See you soon. From Gerry Carolan and Seamus O'Brien and all your friends in the 'Big Apple'.

McKENNA, Laurence. (Portlaoise). Happy birthday on September 30th, 'goat herder'. Everyone out here is behaving themselves! Regards to all the Monaghan lads. Best wishes from Ned and Bernie.

McNALLY, Dermot. Greetings to our son Dermot and all his gallant comrades on the 1st anniversary of the Great Escape from Long Kesh concentration camp on September 29th 1972. Love and respect from Mammy, Daddy and all the family, Lurgan, Tiochaidh ár lá!

McKEOWN, Laurence. (H4). Happy birthday and best wishes. God bless and guide you always. From Daddy, sister and brother.

McKEOWN, Laurence. (H4). Happy birthday. Laurence. You are always in our thoughts. God bless. From Aunt Annie, Uncle James, Siobhán, Martin and Catherine.

McKEOWN, Laurence. (H4). Happy birthday and best wishes from all around Tyrone. From the McCann/Grant Sinn Féin cumann.

NORDONE, Stephen and Jutta. Belated greetings to Stephen and Jutta who were married in August, in Parkhurst Prison, Isle of Wight. We wish you all the luck in the world, also everything that is good and noble in life. From your friends Raymond, Mary and Patrick, Buncrana.

Irish 96 Lesson

Cad é sin? (kod aye shin) — what is that?
Cad (kod) — what?
Cad 6? (kod aye) — what is it?
An uair seo (un oir shu) — this time
Thárla (hawrluh) — happened
Bhris (vrish) — broke
D'ith (dih) — ate
Dheint (dih) — did, made

Cad a thárla don gao? — What happened to the cat?
Cad é sin i do pháca? — What's that in your pocket?
Cad a bhris sé an uair seo? — What did he break this time?
Tá Eoin tinn, cad a d'ith sé? — Owen is sick, what did he eat?

Cad a dheint sibh le mo leabhar? — What did you do with my book?
Cad é sin ar an uair? — What's that on the floor?
Cad a bhí sa litir? What was in the letter?

PHRASES

1 — **Cad a ba mhaith leat?** (kod uh buh voh lyat) — What would you like?
 2 — **Cad é anois 6?** (kod aye unish aye) — What is now?
 3 — **Cad a thug anseo thú?** (kod uh hug unsuh thoo) — What brought you here?
 4 — **Cad a chóir a ré?** (kod is goe-ir uh raw) — What should one say?



● Arch-bishop Ian Paisley — not much has changed

● The wrecked Sinn Féin offices after the RUC raid

REMEMBERING THE PAST Tricolour riots

BY PETER O'ROURKE

IN SEPTEMBER 1964, Belfast witnessed its worst riots since 1935. During the British general election of 1964 Sinn Féin fielded a candidate, Liam Millan, in the marginal constituency of West Belfast. At their headquarters in Divis Street, at the city end of the Falls Road, a Tricolour was placed in the window.

Under the Flags and Emblems Act of 1954 (which is still in force), the Tricolour was declared a 'provocative emblem' and its display was declared illegal.

Although the RUC had, at that time, given up interfering with Tricolours in hard-core nationalist areas, Ian Paisley, on September 27th 1964, seized on the opportunity for self-

publicity, demanded that either the RUC remove the flag or he would lead a procession to Divis Street to remove the flag himself.

The following day, fifty RUC men, led by a district inspector, broke down the door of the Sinn Féin office and seized the flag, while the Stormont Minister for Home Affairs saw Paisley and appealed to him to call off his

marsh. His object achieved, Paisley contented himself with a rally at the City Hall.

WAITING

On the Falls Road, a crowd of several thousand had gathered waiting for Paisley and when he didn't come a few buses were burnt. The next day the Tricolour was replaced and the RUC were prevented by the crowds from removing it.

On Thursday, October 1st, the RUC, using pick-axes, broke into the Sinn Féin headquarters and removed the flag. That night, Belfast had its worst riots since 1935. Rioting continued for nearly twenty-four hours.

The RUC used armoured cars and water-cannons and the crowd replied with petrol bombs.

Three hundred and fifty RUC, wearing military helmets and backed by armoured cars, were sent into the Falls on the Friday night and smashed the resistance. During the riots, 50 civilians and 21 RUC were injured while over 50 republicans were arrested.

The RUC backed off and when the Tricolour was carried at a republican parade on the Sunday they didn't interfere. At the polls, ten days after the riots, the Unionists held West Belfast.

The Tricolour riots began in Belfast on September 27th 1964, 20 years ago this week.

Death of Hughie Hamill

THE DEATH has taken place of Hughie Hamill of Sligo, a life-long republican, closely associated with the GAA.

Hughie left his native Ballymena, County Antrim, in 1939 and went to work as a barber in Boyle, County Roscommon. A year later, he moved to Sligo where he opened his own barber's shop.

Hughie was a founder member of the Tommy Langan Sinn Féin cumann and remained a staunch republican until his death.

A republican guard of honour flanked Hughie's Tricolour-draped coffin, as a lone piper led the funeral procession from Sligo General Hospital to St Anne's Church and after Requiem Mass to Sligo Cemetery. Local republican, Eamon Healy, gave the oration.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

Sligo commemoration

SLIGO'S NOBLE SIX annual commemoration took place to Benbulbin Mountain on Sunday, September 23rd. Led by a piper, a crowd of 100 people paraded from Rathcormac church to the mountain.

Matt Murphy, assistant-chairman of Sligo National Graves Association, chaired the ceremonies. Wreaths were laid by Maura O'Boyle on behalf of

Sligo NGA, by Eddie Wallace, one of Sligo's oldest republicans, on behalf of the Republican Movement, and by Helen McManus on behalf of the Noble Six Sinn Féin cumann, Sligo.

A decade of the Rosary in Irish was led by Sean McGoldrick and the oration was delivered by Brian McManus, chairman of Sligo Sinn Féin.

IRELAND in struggle

portable exhibition of photographs
 See Vera Harpelle at Falls Bar
 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1. Ireland. Telephone 726327



'IRELAND IN STRUGGLE'

(Sinn Féin Foreign Affairs Portfolio) Consists of general introduction 'Free Ireland' and 20 glossy pages 45cm x 32cm (black and white) photographs and information on various topics of Ireland's struggle for freedom. (English only at present). Available from 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

Price: £6 plus current postage rates as follows.

USA/Canada — £4.40
 Denmark — £2.90
 France — £5.80
 Germany — £3.20
 Ireland — £1.05
 Italy — £3.80
 Netherlands — £3.50
 Norway — £4.70
 Sweden — £3.90
 Spain — £3.42

Propaganda

A Chara,
Please allow me some space in your column to expose yet another piece of black propaganda which appears to have gone unnoticed.

In May of this year, the IRA claimed responsibility for killing one member of the Territorial Army and injuring two others. As usual, the hypocritical condemnations poured in from all shades of opinion, including the SDLP's very pale green.

One piece of this condemnation should, however, not go unanswered. It was the statement that the Territorial Army members were not 'real soldiers' and that the IRA were now opting for 'soft targets'.

How interesting then to see, within the last six weeks, two features on BBC's *Scene around Six* concerning the very same force. The first stated how gratifying it was to see Ulstermen (sic) being trained to use highly sophisticated Ulster-made weapons (in this case, the 'Shorts' blowpipe missile); and again very recently, they were seen taking part in the NATO operations in Western Europe.

This leaves one wondering whether, if they are shot dead in a theoretical World War III, the UN would condemn their killers for killing 'soft targets' or would they be dying heroically for queen and country like 'real soldiers'?

Belfast republican.



Joyriding

A Chara,
On last Sunday night, September 23rd, a number of youths were joyriding in the Cardiffbridge area of Finglas. During the disturbance, a car was overturned and burned. A crowd gathered to watch the incident.

The fire brigade was called and it was subsequently stoned as was a number of gardai present.

The gardai called in the riot squad to reinforce their presence, they then baton-charged the crowd, not differentiating between trouble-makers and innocent bystanders.

Eye witnesses have told Finglas Sinn Féin of incidents where gardai bludgeoned young children.

Finglas Sinn Féin, while utterly condemning the anti-social attitude of the joyriders, also condemns the brutal attitude of the gardai. The attitude of the gardai is one of suppression of the symptoms and not of helping to uproot the causes of the

mála poist

CHILEAN GROUP

Dear Sir,

Soon after September 11th 1973, as a result of a bloody coup that put an end to democracy in our country, a number of Chilean families came to Ireland. Since then, most of the exiles have engaged ourselves in helping our people in its struggle for freedom and democracy and helping to keep our community and our culture alive in this country.

Today our country is living the most serious political, social and moral crisis of its history. This situation will not change unless the dictatorship is brought down and a new regime is installed to put our country back to work.

The current hunger-strike by students of the Catholic University (now in its fifth week); the return to Chile of a number of political leaders previously expelled from the country and today sent to internal exile; the vast move-



ment of people that can not and will not pay their debts; and, in general, the number of protests all over Chile in preparation for a national stoppage, show that our country has stood in rebellion against the tyranny.

As the struggle increases, repression gets harder. International solidarity is needed to save lives and to put an end to this nightmare.

'Mapuche' is the Chilean cultural group based in Ireland; its members, Chilean exiles since the time of the coup. The group, considering the crisis that Chile is living

under and noting the sacrifices that different organisations of the Chilean people are making in order to defend their political, trade union, cultural and social rights, has decided to launch a fund-raising campaign to help such organisations.

Our aim is to raise £1,500 by the end of October.

To reach this goal the group is organising a number of events, including social evenings (Chilean style), a dinner for the freedom of Chile, a concert of Chilean music, etc.

We appeal to your soli-

arity. Even the smallest amount will help. Please send your donation to Mapuche Chilean Cultural Group, Bank Account No. 27793079, Allied Irish Bank, 3/4 Foster Place. All donations will be acknowledged.

We take this opportunity to thank all those who have given us tremendous encouragement with their help and suggestions.

Mapuche Chilean Cultural Group,
c/o St Francis Xavier Church,
Upper Gardiner Street,
Dublin 1.

trouble i.e. lack of recreational facilities, unemployment, bad housing, etc.

Secretary,
Finglas Sinn Féin.

Sectarianism

A Chara,
AP/RN recently printed a letter carrying the signature 'Protestant republican'. Given the tribalism which dominates loyalist politics, it is gratifying that Protestants can still find the courage to declare themselves republicans, particularly when one considers the fate which befell John Turnley, Ronnie Bunting and various others.

However, by using the pen-name 'Protestant republican', the writer displays a basic misunderstanding of the cause he wishes to espouse.

He implies that there are 'Protestant republicans' and 'Catholic republicans' and that they are in some way different. This is sectarianism - the very thing republicans seek to put an end to.

If the writer contributes to *mála poist* again, he should simply sign himself 'Republican'; it is, after all, an honoured name.

Pól Ó Lochlainn.

Expensive fire

A Chara,

After reading your article in *AP/RN* (September 13th) concerning solid-fuel heating for houses in Craigoan, I would like to give my opinion on this type of heating as I live in a house with same.

I find these fires to be dirty, smelly and too expensive for working (unemployed) class homes.

It takes at least two bags of smokeless coal at around £8 per bag for one week's heating.

and, in my opinion, the people of Craigoan are climbing out of the frying pan and into an expensive fire.

Anne McLoughlin,
Armagh.



Community Games

Dear Editor,

I should like to avail of your paper to record our sincere thanks and appreciation for one of the most successful Community Games National Finals ever to be held at Mosney Holiday Centre, County Meath.

To all those good people who came from far and wide to officiate at our finals, a well-deserving thank you is certainly due. To organise, to administer and to service over 5,000 competitors in up to 185 events over two week-ends, in such appalling weather conditions, and to keep very much to schedule is no mean achievement.

The visit of John Tracey, our Olympic Silver Medalist, certainly excited the very large attendance on the Sunday and gave importance to the games in which he competed in 1973 and 1974.

The presence of other sporting VIPs such as Caroline O'Shea, another former Community Games performer, and Kieran Joyce, Phil Sutcliffe and Marcus O'Sullivan, enhanced our games, exhibiting to all young competitors a prowess to be achieved through dedication.

Community Games has now established itself as a major activity that is benefiting thousands of children annually. The growth of Community Games will continue and we would like to achieve the involvement of the whole thirty-two counties with every village, town and parish enjoying the benefits of what Community Games can offer.

With the dedication and backing we have at present, we feel that we must now move forward and endeavour to embrace all our Irish emigrants in far-away lands, so that all our kindred, wherever they may be, can benefit from the enjoyment of competition that Community Games can provide.

The success of our 1984 Games now paves the way towards the 1985 International Youth Year, and it is with this in mind we would like to extend to all those in all capacities and levels who made this possible by their hard work, determination and dedication in this year's Games, our very sincere and very special appreciation and thanks.

Joseph Connolly,
General Secretary,
Community Games.

Rangers fans

A Chara,

In last week's edition of the *Sunday World* (September 23rd), a report was carried of an alleged wrecking of our offices at 5 Blessington Street by Rangers fans who were in town for the Rangers v Bohemians soccer match.

Contrary to this anonymous report, at no stage did any Rangers fans enter our offices; neither did they 'breach security'. Consequently, what was reported as happening afterwards i.e. the rush up the stairs, the beating up of office workers, the mass evacuation of the building and the spraying of a slogan on the

wall, simply did not happen.

As for the UDA's alleged claim that Rangers fans carried out these actions, it is surprising that the *Sunday World* reporter did not attempt to discover whether the UDA speaks for all the Rangers fans, or just for some.

Finally, at no time was anyone at our offices contacted in an attempt to verify this story which can only be described as pure fabrication and pathetic journalism.

Aine Nic Mhurchadha
PRO, Sinn Féin,
Comhairle Átha Cliath.

Due credit

A Chara,

Your report on the court-case involving summonses against protestors over the neglect of the Irish language by RTE omitted a basic piece of information.

This case was dismissed as "It is discovered that the Irish used on the summonses was incorrect".

Are your readers to believe that these imperfect summonses were miraculously 'found to be so following an extensive search of the courtroom'? Has the system perhaps disgorged a judge capable of finding against the status quo?

As it happens, the establishment was forced to concede on the imperfect summoning issue because of the work in this case of the Seamus O Tuathail.

Now, O Tuathail may have taken a different road in 1970, but it can't be doubted that he has remained a persistent critic of the twenty-six county establishment and, in this instance, has emerged a victor in the struggle to resist the downgrading of our culture and language.

Come on AP/RN - don't be coy - give credit where it's due.

Francis McEulenan,
Carrigrohane, Dubh.

Imeachtaí

PORTLAIOISE RELATIVES MEETING
7pm Thursday 27th 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

OÍCHE AIRNEÁIL
Every Friday
Andersonstown Social Club
BELFAST
Fáilte roimh chách

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

IRISH NIGHT
(Welcome home for ex-POWs)
9pm Friday 28th September
Blue Anchor
BELLURGAN
County Louth
Táille £2
(Coaches leave The Square, Dundalk, at 8.30pm and 9pm)

ANTI-APARTHEID PICKET
2.30 to 4pm Every Saturday
Dunnes Stores
Henry Street
DUBLIN
All support welcome

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

BALLAD SESSION
Music by Latch
9pm Saturday 29th September
Cassidy's Lounge
COLLON
County Louth
Táille £1
Organised by Sinn Féin

PRISON PICKET
(7th Anniversary: Sean O'Connell)
1pm Sunday 30th September
Parkhurst Prison
Newport
Isle of Wight
ENGLAND

THOMAS ASHE COMMEMORATION
3.30pm Sunday 30th September
Glasgow Cemetery
DUBLIN
Assemble Hart's Corner 3pm
Organised by Sinn Féin

PICKET
11am Monday 1st October
County Council Offices
O'Connell Street
DUBLIN
Organised by
Tallaght Unemployment Group

FUNCTION
Music by Patsy Farrell and the Volunteers
9pm Friday 5th October
Bamboo Lounge
MANORHAMILTON
County Leitrim
Táille £2
Organised by Sinn Féin

PRISON PICKET
(8th Anniversary: Noel Jenkinson)
1pm Saturday 7th October
Leicester Prison
Welford Road
Leicester
ENGLAND

Ballyfermot cumann

A NEW Sinn Féin cumann has been formed to cover the Clover Hill area of Ballyfermot. The cumann has been named after Billy Reid.

Anyone wishing to join Sinn Féin should contact 5 Blessington Street, Dublin 1; ring 308-783.

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Unravelling the nuclear debate

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

SUNDAY NIGHT'S drama-documentary on BBC2 and RTE2, *Threads*, was an account of what would happen to the people of Sheffield after a nuclear attack. Though the main part of the film was about the aftermath, the build-up to the outbreak of war was the most frightening part.

The fact that the majority of people went around oblivious to the threat until it was too late was so believable that it made the rest chillingly true as well.

But even those who did build shelters and buy stocks of food fared no better than the oblivious ones, they merely survived the blast to die from radiation sickness and freezing nuclear winter after the bomb. Some did not get that far, killed by other survivors desperate for food.

The main character, Ruth, is pregnant. She lives through the nuclear attack, survives to have her baby and raise her through the nuclear winter when the sun cannot penetrate the layers of dust thrown up in the atmosphere, and plants cannot grow.

When that is over, the sun's unscreened ultra-violet rays burn eyes and skin, causing cataracts and cancer. Ruth dies, and her daughter, mentally retarded by radiation, is raped and has a child. The film ends with the girl recoiling in horror from the deformed child.

The threads of the title symbolise the structure of society, shattered and smashed as easily as bodies and bricks.

On Monday night, BBC2 and RTE2 showed *On the Eighth Day*, a documentary that backed up the theory of nuclear winter with scientific fact. The assumption up to now has been that, while vast areas would be destroyed and millions killed, there would be enough people and uncontaminated land left for survival.

Recent discoveries, however, have proved that the northern hemisphere would be plunged into darkness and temperatures would drop below freezing long enough to destroy nearly all the plant and animal life.

Perhaps the most frightening programme of them all was the one which followed *On the Eighth Day*. On BBC2 at 10.30pm, there was a debate between scientists, politicians and academics about the possibility of nuclear war and its real-life consequences.

The film the night before had shown the chaos in the basement of Sheffield's Town Hall, where the Emergency Defence Committee supposedly organised food supplies and medical aid. Their main object

seemed to be to prevent starving people from getting food because "they were going to die anyway."

During *The Nuclear Debate*, the actual head of Sheffield's Civil Defence Corps complained that Sheffield's Labour-controlled council were not co-operating in contingency plans in case of a nuclear attack. The councillors believe that to plan for war makes it inevitable, the civil defence spokesperson, on the other hand, seemed anxious to get into action.

As the debate went on, they weighed up the deterrent theory, the mutual assured destruction (MAD) theory etc, and most came to the conclusion that we are all worrying about nothing as it won't happen anyway — which is the easiest, if not the most believable, solution.

...

Rich Man, Poor Man was the title of UTV's *Counterpoint* on Thursday, September 20th. They examined "Northern Ireland's image" of poverty and hopelessness against evidence that there was, for instance, a market for expensive cars and luxury houses.

Car salesmen, travel agents and estate agents all got free television time to advertise their BMW's, mock Georgian mansions and holidays in Ibiza, claiming that they had more buyers than goods to sell them.



● Scientists predict that survivors of a nuclear war would live in a permanent sub-zero twilight, a nuclear winter

The usual insinuations were made about people on the dole who went on holidays and even had decent clothes.

Paddy Devlin's assessment of the North's growing poverty was that the "redistribution of wealth" that was happening in "other parts of the United Kingdom" did not happen in the North, that unemployment led to "the cycle of violence" and that people needed jobs to become "civilised".

Monica McWilliams, a lecturer, put paid to the myth of the dole sponger with the high life, saying that it was a lie that people on the dole had videos and annual holidays, pointing to the millions of pounds in benefit that is never claimed. She said that the media image of cunning people milking the system for everything they could get was obviously untrue.

"The problem is not that the dole is too high, but that wages are too low and there are no new jobs," she said.

"The haves increase their wealth to the detriment of the have-nots."

This was a good attempt by *Counterpoint* to show the vast difference in living standards between rich and poor, but the suggestion that it is only happening in the North, and that the "growing gap between the haves and have-nots" is not a common experience of working-class people under a capitalist system, made the programme unbalanced.

Back home and on tour

BY RORY O'MORE

OCTOBER sees Ireland's two most celebrated international musicians back home and on tour. Chris De Burgh and Van Morrison were both winners of Stag/Hot Press Awards presented on Thursday, September 20th, during Dublin's Festival Week. Christy Moore was the third solo performer to get an award — "for being an outlaw unto himself", we were informed.

Chris De Burgh's concerts are in Cork on October 12th, Limerick on the 13th, and Dublin on the 15th, 16th and 17th.

Van Morrison is in Dublin on October 18th and in Belfast from October 19th to 25th. He will be supported by Bob Dylan's favourite group, The McPeakes, and, we are told, many other Irish artists.

...

Chris De Burgh, as far as I remember, was born in Argentina and came to Ireland soon afterwards, which would hardly make him Margaret Thatcher's favourite singer. But there is no doubt that he has many more fans than she has these days. So what's his secret?

Many say that Chris De Burgh is so middle-of-the-road in his music that he should have been run down long ago. In fact he has not been, and grows in popularity, as his three gigs at the RDS will prove once again. So those who sneer don't sound too convincing.

As a singer and songwriter De Burgh has to be acknowledged as competent in his chosen field. The thing is there isn't an awful lot to get to grips with. Musically, he is fine to listen to, but not challenging.

And lyrically, apart from

'love and devotion', he is, to say the least, rather obscure in his message. In one thing he is strong and that is his pacifist message as witnessed by his classic *Borderline* anti-war song. This theme is repeated on his latest *Man on the Line* album in the song *The Sound of a Gun*.

"But now the shadow of a gunman, with his balaclava eyes, is making the news, calling out the warnings on the telephone: 'You're in the line of fire — wish there was another way — line of fire — any thing goes', And who is the winner and what will the minister say at the end of the day? Never, never, never, never!"

Well, yes, but what does it really mean and what is the suggested alternative? "To be in love with a lady" is De Burgh's suggestion elsewhere.

Less than convincing, but easy listening.

...

Another who refuses to explain his lyrics is Belfast's second most famous Morrison — Van. But Morrison is definitely much more important musically than De Burgh.

Ireland's most convincing answer to Bob Dylan, he is the most inspired live performer you are likely to see this year, which is something, considering the stage-fright that has

haunted his career.

Morrison combines Celtic soul with romantic mysticism, but never loses a driving rhythm or purposeful beat. He has absorbed the influences of some legendary American blues, folk and country singers, in the two decades. *Them* broke up, from Leadbelly to Jimmy Rodgers — and how it shows.

His most recent album, *Live at the Grand Opera House, Belfast*, shows Morrison at his best yet. One of the six concerts in Belfast returns to that venue, whilst five are at the New Vic and in Dublin the venue is the RDS.

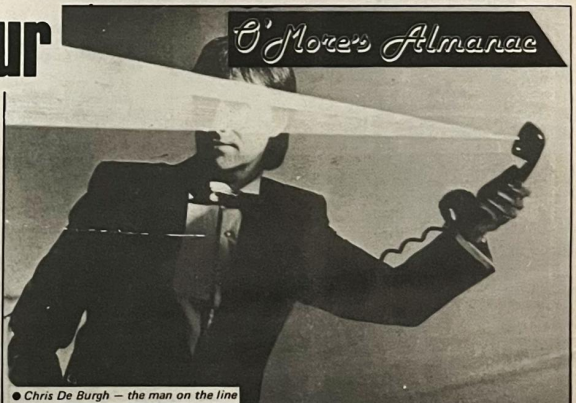
Morrison, live, is not to be missed.

...

RTE's intellectual pygmy, Mike Murphy, has launched a high-sounding festival under the excruciating name *ContemporEire*. For the life of me I cannot work out what it is supposed to be, mainly because nobody seems to have been hired to do the PR.

Whatever it is, it officially opens next Sunday in Dublin. Murphy is claiming every musical, theatrical and artistic event in Dublin in the next couple of weeks is part of his festival. But the people putting on the individual events all seem to be insisting that they are acting quite independently and would have been giving us their particular production anyway.

All that I have identified as Murphy's is a visit from a couple of British theatrical groups and the rescheduling of the already-planned Depeche Mode concert to coincide with his



● Chris De Burgh — the man on the line

'festival'.

How this represents contemporary Ireland is anyone's guess.

...

One of the events rejecting the Murphy tag is the Dublin Street Carnival this weekend. All of it is free, courtesy of your usually-not-very friendly local corporation.

Among the endless list of offerings not to be missed is an invitation to 'Beat on the Street' at Stephen's Green on Saturday night (the mind boggles!) or, alternatively, to join Molly Malone at her Ceili in the Mansion House. On Sunday, there is the prospect of a four-hour show in the Green with Brush Shiels and his band, Honor Heffernan with Declan Sinnott, and Stockton's Wing.

Now you can't argue with that. Even if they do have to bring the rates back to pay for it all.



● The second most famous Morrison — Van

Kerry drubs the Dubs

BY JOHN JOE KING

FOR SOME REASON best known to themselves, probably fear, the overwhelming majority of Dublin-based newspaper pundits had established Dublin as the All-Ireland favourites by last Sunday morning.

The Dublin team, for all their public utterances, did not share this confidence. Dublin did not go out onto the pitch to play the game their way, they went out to try and stop Kerry playing it theirs.

By such decisions is defeat ensured. And so it was with the Dubs.

It's not that Dublin were a bad team on the way to the final: in fact, they were quite a good one; better than average most would agree — making up with enthusiastic rough play what they so obviously lacked in skill. And why not? Didn't it get them to the final?

But last Sunday they had to meet not just a good team, not just a very good team, but a Kerry team. A team as skilful, if not more so, than the best of the last decade.

So the Dubs were made to look like the ordinary team that they are. And perhaps the Tyrones and Meaths will realise that now and not be so overawed in future.

It didn't matter to Kerry that Dublin were playing on their home ground; they even let them warm up down their own little corner so as to avoid any temper tantrums.

It didn't matter to Kerry that Dublin played a third man in mid-field to try and contain Jack O'Shea. It certainly didn't matter to Jack O'Shea. It didn't matter to his mid-field partner Ambrose O'Donovan either.

A third player? On frequent occasions in the game, there were five or six Dubs falling over each other in the mid-field, to no effect.

It didn't matter to Kerry that the Dubs tried the heavy

stuff — 27 frees to 18. Kerry men, however, are not intimidated by such stuff, recognising it for what it is — an admission of inferior skill.

EXCELLENCE

Before the match, the pro-Dublin pundits were telling us that Kerry had had an easy passage to the final, hardly deserving to be there really. After the match, the same pundits were informing us that the game had been a disappointment, boring in fact. What a pity they didn't watch the football on the field. It was a lesson in excellence — pearls before swine perhaps?

The reason Kerry had such an 'easy' journey to the final and such an 'easy' victory there is so simple that these bleary-eyed word stragglers can't understand it — Kerry are way out ahead of all the rest, by more miles than between Dublin and Killarney.

And last Sunday they put that beyond any doubt for anyone with eyes to see.

Poor Dublin, you'd nearly feel sorry for them. Wasn't it just as well as they had Barney Rock? Can you imagine the blushes — Kerry 0-14, Dublin 0-1 instead of 1-6?

And wasn't it just as well that Mike Sheehy wasn't playing for Kerry?

Of course the Dublin tactics of crowding the mid-field meant that the game was never an open one, there was no room for the free-flowing play which even the most begrudging sports writers can recognise as impressive.

But where would you witness a brilliant defence like Kerry's? It was a joy to watch the ebbing tide of Dublin attacks fall back in despair. And

We were supposed to believe Seanie Walsh was playing out of position; that Tom Spillane was suspect? A rather crafty pre-match Kerry joke, I suspect, for which the innocent fell.

Where would you witness a mid-field duo such as O'Shea and O'Donovan? Certainly the captaincy rested lightly on the latter's shoulders — and why wouldn't it? His more senior colleagues made sure that the strain of taking decisions should not be left to such a raw biscuit. Nor was there any need for urging or scolding.

But he made a nice little speech at the end; and such a lovely smile.

ACHIEVEMENT

For all that, Ambrose O'Donovan has arrived in no uncertain terms, and not to be overshadowed by Jack O'Shea, that player of the century playing in the centenary game, is no mean achievement.

Some commentators have said O'Shea was 'muted' or 'frustrated' by Dublin's containment policy. They must have made some mistake — O'Shea was the one with the number 8 shirt on.

O'Shea was at his best, controlling the direction of play with consummate ease. And on several memorable occasions, he rose high above the bunch of mere mortals to take the ball, as though propelled by some mysterious power source like yer woman in the Olympic synchronised swimming — with grinning white teeth to match; in fact, all he was lacking was the nose-peg.

Then to the forwards. Suffice it to say that the Bomber Liston was awesome, and that Pat Spillane's four points included two which neither you nor I are likely to see bettered, or even equalled, at least in this life.

It is only fair too to men-



● Ambrose O'Donovan grins and bears it: holding the Sam Maguire Cup aloft for Kerry's 28th All-Ireland title

tion John Kennedy. Designated to take the close-in frees in the absence of Mike Sheehy, it must be admitted that he showed the pressure of that responsibility, aggravated by a blustery wind and some high-pitched discouragement from the stands. His confidence would hardly have been boosted by the board of directors who made up the captaincy and who, before each kick, looked to be on the point of declaring him redundant.

In spite of all that, and the clear presumption that Sheehy would have kicked, at the very least, another half a dozen points, Kennedy did not allow his game to collapse, played well throughout the match and opened Kerry's second half with two exemplary place-kicks.

TEAMWORK

But most of all, it was teamwork from Kerry which ensured their successful saunter to secure the Sam Maguire. Even when Dublin scored the

only goal of the match, it was only from the sound of the Dublin supporters that there came hope: on the field Kerry showed no panic, calmly took control again, and hit with another point.

Looking back, it was as well that Dublin were given that opening point of theirs in the fourteenth minute. Brian Mullins clearly listed the ball over the line, but the umpire inexplicably signalled a Dublin '50' from which Barney Rock scored. Had Dublin gone pointless for another ten minutes, until their first real score, who knows what would have resulted from their confusion, frustration and desperation?

As it was, there were plenty of fouls but few punch-ups, the referee kept control but the rule-book — particularly on personal fouls — remains a work of fiction, it would appear.

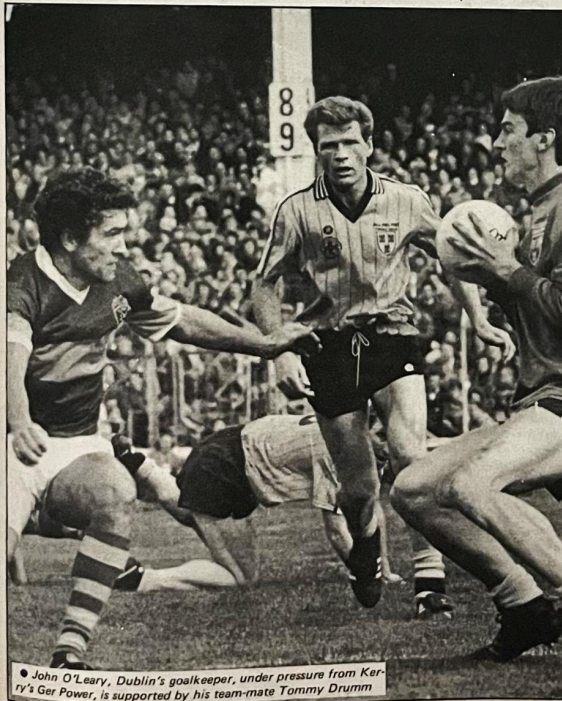
Finally, one classic moment in the second half when Barney Rock lay on the ground playing the old soldier

with some exaggerated injury. Quick to arrive on the scene, Mick Holden applied, not first aid, but, having unceremoniously hoisted Barney back on his feet, a sharp slap on the bottom for such silly behaviour.

For one glorious moment, Rock was in two minds whether to fall down again and sulk or to let Holden hit the box he so richly deserved. Unfortunately, good sense prevailed and the drama ended with Rock running back into play.

If one Dublin player did not deserve such an embarrassment it was Barney Rock, but then if one Dublin player had played well enough to behave so outrageously, then I suppose it was Mick Holden.

So that's the National League and the All-Ireland going to Kerry in this contest 21 years. I wonder which county are going to make history this time next year by becoming the first of the second hundred to be runners-up to Kerry?



● John O'Leary, Dublin's goalkeeper, under pressure from Kerry's Ger Power, is supported by his team-mate Tommy Drumm



● Dublin's John Kearns, with Anton O'Toole close at hand, presses home an attack under attention from Kerry's Sean Walsh

BURKE'S AT THE BACK

By Kevin Burke

PERUSING the jobs advertisements, in the *Sunday Press* last weekend (it's always as well to be prepared for the worst coming up to an ardheis), I came across one particularly interesting offer of employment.

Fine Gael is looking for a western organiser, and is apparently willing to look for one among the *Press's* Fianna Fail readers. But even more note-worthy is the party's abandonment of its much-vaunted concern for women's rights.

"The successful candidate", we are informed "will receive a highly attractive salary commensurate with his demanding and challenging position".

All other advertisers are careful to use he/she, so as not to breach the Employment Equality Act. Surely a case for Women's Affairs Minister Ms Fennell and her Fine Gael feminists?

★★★★

This week marks the first anniversary of what dramatic event?

Yes, the IRA break-out from H-Block 7 on Sunday, September 25th 1983, when 38 republican prisoners stormed out after seeing what was being offered for their Sunday tea.

Of the 19 who made good their escape, the Free State gardai claim that they have captured one, Robert Russell, in Dublin. But the man awaiting extradition proceedings in Portlaoise Prison claims he is not Russell at all, which will add extra interest to the case when it comes before the court.

★★★★

A British soldier, Paul McLaughlin, was in the Talgarth Hotel in London when he heard another guest express support for the IRA. He then went outside, scrawled anti-Catholic slogans on the wall and set the place on fire.

In court last week the judge, having been informed that McLaughlin had seen his best friend killed whilst in the North, let him off with a 12 months suspended sentence.

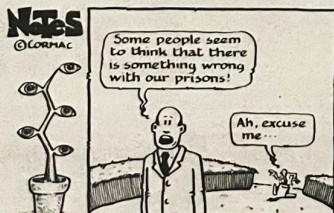
"He has served his country well", the judge remarked.

★★★★

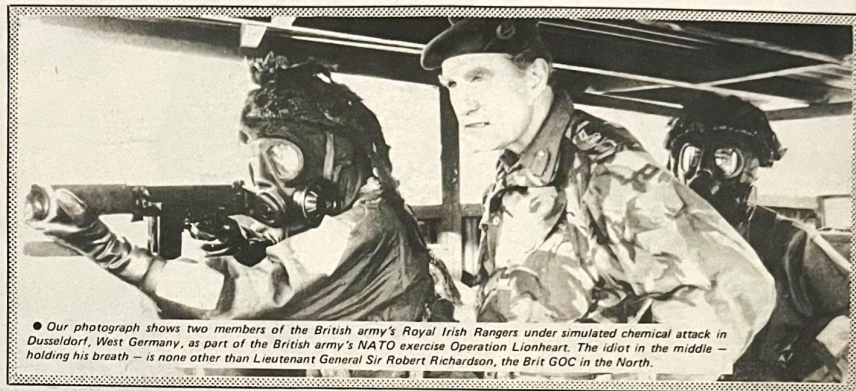
A UDR soldier is one of four men charged in Newry with sexual assaults on young boys and a young girl. The 16 charges cover a period of more than two years.

★★★★

Three members of the British army's



Men only for Fine Gael!



● Our photograph shows two members of the British army's Royal Irish Rangers under simulated chemical attack in Dusseldorf, West Germany, as part of the British army's NATO exercise Operation Lionheart. The idiot in the middle - holding his breath - is none other than Lieutenant General Sir Robert Richardson, the Brit GOC in the North.

Territorial Reserve found themselves under real gunfire whilst taking part in NATO's 'Operation Lionheart' exercise in West Germany. All were injured, one seriously.

The dramatic attack took place in Hanover after a row over a £40 bill in a local brothel.

★★★★

What a busy boy is Garda Mick Barry of Burtonport in County Donegal. Not only does he somehow find time to perform his local official duties, but manages to put in several additional rewarding hours serving petrol at McDewitt's Garage in Annagry, seven miles away, and thence to serve pints in the Tower Bar at Kin-casslagh.

Of course gardai are not supposed to take on such extra-curricular employment but, no doubt, that misdemeanour is overlooked on account of how well placed he is to note the comings and goings of local 'suspects' and gather useful information.

★★★★

When Joe McManus's home near Drumshanbo, County Leitrim, was raided in December last year, Garda Special Branchmen took away a strong-box containing personal papers. The following night they came back, having

DUIRT SIAD

"One of the crew, Cid, went to the bathroom and found a man in the bath. Cid had a leak and on his way out noticed that the dormant mound was an unperturbed but very tired-looking John Hume." - Keith Donald of Moving Hearts writing in Hot Press about a recent stay in London's Irish Club.

"The three politicians who stayed up the latest in animated informal debate at last weekend's meeting in Cambridge were John Hume, Seamus Mallon and Frank Millar.... the whole

occasion was enlivened by a case of Jameson supplied free." - Conor O'Clery writing in the Irish Times about the recent meeting of the self-styled British Irish Association.

"I, like any reasonable man, immediately retired to the bar with John Hume..." - Tim Pat Coogan writing in the Irish Press about the same meeting.

"Ministers fail to agree on wine" - Irish Times headline on report from the EEC agriculture ministers meeting in Killarney.



been unable to pick the lock, and asked him for the key. McManus was unable to assist them in this regard.

They then took a tyre lever from their car and broke open the box.

The incident had its sequel in the local court on Wednesday, September 12th, when the judge refused to believe garda claims that there could have been incriminating documents inside, and ordered them to pay McManus £12 for the damage plus his legal costs.

★★★★

Just before the EEC elections, the SDLP in Fermanagh let it be known, triumphantly, that through the efforts of John Hume in Brussels, the Brits had agreed to reopen Lackey Bridge, the closure of which in 1980 had caused considerable economic hardship to local people on both sides of the border.

Since then the bridge has remained unopened and it has now been revealed by Free State Minister Peter Barry that the bridge will remain closed to traffic, although the Brits might just replace the existing foot-bridge - not a very useful route given the long distances involved.

Another election goody bites the dust.

★★★★

Whilst Ian Paisley was loudly proclaim-

ing the departure of James Prior as 'good riddance to bad rubbish', two of his DUP followers were taking a rather different tack.

Larne Assemblymen Jim Allister and Jack McKee wrote a smarmy note to the departing direct-ruler recalling their fond memories of his stay, wishing him well for the future and hoping he wouldn't forget his friends in that little corner of County Antrim.

For, as the two crafty politicians knew, Prior was heading for the chairman's seat at GEC, and Larne just happens to have many workers worried about the future of the local GEC factory.

★★★★

The man likely to replace Democratic vice-presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro in the United States Congress is Thomas Manton, who won the local primary election last week.

Manton, a New York City Council member, has been a yearly participant in Noraid testimonial dinners, spoke at several hunger-strike rallies and successfully moved the council resolution congratulating Michael O'Rourke on his election as St Patrick's Day Parade honorary grand marshal.

More bad news for the Free State government.