

EEC RULES THE WAVES Blockade!

A MAJOR confrontation between the Free State armed forces and Irish fishermen was looming on Wednesday night as a trawler blockade tightened on the major Free State ports.

The protest by the fishermen was mounted on Tuesday of this week as five of their number began their second week in Mountjoy Jail where they are being held on charges of fishing for herring in the Celtic Sea.

The five, who are refusing to sign bail-bonds, include the chairman of the Irish Fishermen's Organisation, Joseph Maddock.

All are being prosecuted under EEC regulations which closed the Celtic Sea to herring fishing in 1977, and even though Irish fishermen insist they have scientific evidence of dramatically increased herring stocks, the EEC Commission has refused to lift its ban on Irish waters.

On Thursday of this week, Fianna Fail's Minister for Fisheries, Brendan Daly, makes a tardy visit to Brussels to talk with the EEC Fisheries Commissioner, who is said not to have the authority to lift the herring ban without the sanction of the ministers of all ten member states.

Before Daly left, however, the Fianna Fail government ordered the Free State armed forces and navy to smash a passage through the trawler blockades if necessary.

But the fishermen have reported that they will remain firm until they are convinced that their plight is being taken seriously. Unless they can catch the herring, they say they cannot afford to retain their boats and may as well lose them one way as another.

An Phoblacht REPUBLICAN NEWS



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• Free State troops are ready to smash the herring fishermen's trawler blockades

NO PAUSE

AS *An Phoblacht/Republican News* goes to press on Thursday morning of this week, the counting of votes in the North's assembly elections begins.

And as it does so, republicans, in these elections as part of a strategy of building a new political leadership, are confident of polling well, right across the board.

The determination of Sinn Fein to oppose the dangerous British designs for a reinvigorated loyalist ascendancy in a new cosmetised Stormont has been matched throughout the campaign by an equal determination to challenge the SDLP's claim to the leadership of the nationalist people.

In waging this campaign so wholeheartedly, republicans have gained encouraging advances, following on last year's hunger-strike which reawakened widespread nationalist emotions, and achieved a more extensive degree of politicisation of the struggle.

Most importantly, the Sinn Fein campaign has courageously defined and defended the primary role of the IRA in waging the war against

British occupation based, not on any ballot box, but on the unchallengeable right of the oppressed to fight the oppressor.

Although the media has determinedly resisted Sinn Fein's attempts to put forward its analysis of the social and economic deprivation weighing on the North, nevertheless on the ground republicans have explained their policies in these areas too.

And uniquely among all the parties, Sinn Fein alone has been using the Irish language throughout this election campaign and addressing itself also to the wrongs of cultural oppression.

EXPERIENCE

Benefits have been gained

(continued on next page)



• Sinn Fein election candidate in West Belfast, Alex Maskey, confronts Brit/RUC bully-boys, who have consistently harassed the republican election campaign

NO PAUSE

(continued from previous page)

in the practicalities of lessons learnt in electoral experience, a totally new field to almost all Northern republicans outside Fermanagh/South Tyrone. Recruitment and organisational reconstruction have also been areas in which major progress has been made.

And yet another vital element has been the successful bridging of the generation gap, with young and old alike coming forward to support the republican candidates.

However many thousands of votes are obtained, there is still no time for a pause in harnessing this basic progress which has been generated.

The Republican Movement is pledged to continue the campaign to smash Stormont on the streets now that the electoral phase is passed.

The possibility of an SDLP involvement in the assembly exercise after the election adds to the dangerous prospect of Prior moving on down the line of his rolling devolution.

It is vital, therefore, that the momentum gained so far is developed into the real success of a realisation of the ultimate republican objectives.

The struggle must continue with more urgency and determination than ever.

BRITS HAVE LUCKY ESCAPE

A BRITISH army foot patrol in the Ballymurphy district of West Belfast had a very narrow escape last Thursday morning, October 14th, when a sophisticated IRA remote control bomb detonated as they passed nearby.

IRA Volunteers had carefully located the small bomb on a piece of waste land between Whitecliff Parade and Whitecliff Crescent in the heavily Brit-patrolled Ballymurphy Estate. As the four-man patrol approached, shortly after 10am, the bomb was detonated but unfortunately failed to inflict enemy casualties.

Despite the fact that there were, also, no injuries to local civilians, the RUC predictably (with the assistance of local Workers' Party representative Mary McMahon) indulged in its usual propaganda drive, saying it 'was a miracle none of the civilian population was killed'.

The IRA itself, in quickly claiming responsibility for the attack, pointed out that contrary to this propaganda no civilians were in the target area when their Volunteers detonated the bomb, and that in fact the same Volunteers had delayed in detonating the bomb on an earlier occasion, when passing Brits had actually presented a better target — because they believed there might be a very slight risk to civilians some distance away.

The IRA, in the same statement, also claimed responsibility for an aborted bomb attack several days earlier, at the King's Hall in the Balmoral area of Belfast. Volunteers engaged in planting the sophisticated bomb — attached to an RUC traffic cone — were forced to withdraw after a passer-by became suspicious, and the bomb was discovered.

But so elaborately designed was this IRA bomb that it completely frustrated the efforts of British army bomb 'experts' to defuse it, forcing them eventually to detonate it.

Panel condemns plastic bullets

BY EAMON TREACY

THE Belfast-based Association for Legal Justice organised a one-day conference on the use of plastic bullets last Saturday, before an eight-strong panel of eminent individuals which included Richard Balfe, a British Labour Party member of the European parliament; Andrew Boyd, author and lecturer; Catherine Scorer of the National Council for Civil Liberties; Professor Kevin Boyle of Galway University; and Jonathan Rosenhead, author of 'The Technology of Political Control'.

Sean McCann, chairperson of the ALJ, described the purpose of the conference as being to attempt to "put further pressure on the British government to ban the use of the weapon here. Public opinion would not permit their use in England and they must not be tolerated in Ireland either," he said.

In early August last year, a similar tribunal heard evidence in respect of nine deaths and 66 injuries, many very serious and with permanent disabling effects, all caused by the indiscriminate use of plastic bullets against the nationalist population.

The 1981 tribunal announced that it had concluded that the plastic bullet was a 'lethal weapon' and that "there appears to have been, over the last three months at least, widespread indiscriminate shooting by plastic bullets of people not involved in riots which, in view of the total lack of official response to complaints, we can only assume to be tacitly tolerated by the authorities."

That tribunal called for the banning of plastic bullets in the North and for urgent inquiries into the deaths and serious injuries caused by it. In the event of those recommendations being ignored, it suggested that a similar tribunal should be reconvened.

FOLLOW-UP

Last weekend's conference was a follow-up to that first tribunal. In the morning session, evidence was given by families and eye-witnesses



● The plastic bullet conference at Belfast's Lake Glen where RUC men ran amok a fortnight ago

of the three latest plastic bullet victims — Peter Doherty (33) of Belfast, killed July 31st 1981; Peter Magennis (41) of Belfast, killed August 10th 1981; and Stephen McConomy (11) of Derry, killed April 19th 1982.

In the afternoon, many of those injured by plastic bullets over the years gave personal accounts of their experiences.

In a statement following the day-long conference, the panel said:

"The plastic bullet is evidently a lethal weapon capable of causing horrific injuries. When used in riot situations it is a weapon of quite disproportionate strength. The penalty for unlawful assembly or for stone-throwing is not summary death..."

"In case after case we have heard of plastic bullets being used in non-riot situations; indoors where crowd dispersal was impossible; at short range where there was no threat to the security forces; on small children; and aimed at the head..."

"Plastic bullets constitute a grave breach of human rights and we call for their withdrawal from service."

'Innocent victim' verdict

IT TOOK only a matter of minutes for a jury to return the verdict that 14-year-old Julie Livingstone, of Belfast's Lenadon area, was an innocent victim when she was killed by a British army plastic bullet on May 12th last year.

The inquest, on Wednesday last week, had been the third attempt by the Livingstone family to have such a verdict returned. At the first inquest, earlier this year, the family objected to the hearing on the grounds that the RUC had told them they did not require legal representation.

On the second occasion, Coroner James Elliott refused to empanel a jury, but the solicitor for the family successfully appealed that decision to the High Court.

The jury heard a direct conflict of evidence from three British soldiers who fired plastic bullets at or near Julie, on the day of the death of hunger-striker Francis Hughes, and from civilian witnesses who testified that nothing was thrown at the two British army saracens involved until after Julie had been fatally wounded by a plastic bullet which fractured her skull and propelled her through a hedge at the side of the road.

An unidentified British army



● JULIE LIVINGSTONE innocent victim of the British army sergeant, who fired the bullet which killed Julie, claimed he had fired at a youth who had earlier thrown a petrol-bomb at his vehicle. He said he had seen the youth fall through a hedge after being hit.

No charges have been brought for the murder, as has been the rule in similar plastic bullet killings and maimings.

Warder walks free



● Seventy-four-year-old Isobel Slowe following the brutal attack by prison warder Morrow

IN A CASE unreported by all the Northern media, other than Belfast's *Andersonstown News*, a 40-year-old prison warder, Mervyn Morrow, has been released by a Newtownards court after attacking a 74-year-old female patient in Purdysburn Hospital, who later died from her injuries.

Morrow went to the hospital on July 6th, 1981, seeking admission for psychiatric treatment. Whilst there he attacked and brutally assaulted Beechmount pensioner Isobel Slowe, inflicting injuries from which she died 13 days later without regaining consciousness.

Morrow was pulled off his victim shouting: "I love Ulster, I would die for Ulster." After the attack Morrow was admitted as a patient to the hospital and released two months later, in September 1981, as a free man.

After lengthy protests from Mrs Slowe's family, the RUC eventually, in June 1982, charged Morrow with manslaughter and causing grievous bodily harm. He appeared on Wednesday, October 6th, in Newtownards County Court.

Morrow at first pleaded not guilty to both charges on the grounds of being mentally unbalanced. His counsel, in addition, claimed that the blood clot which had killed Mrs Slowe was not caused by the beating but by her lying down immobile for a period.

The coroner, called as a prosecution witness, gave evidence that this was



● Mrs Slowe pictured with her three grandchildren in 1976

very rare in active people like Mrs Slowe. Nevertheless Judge Roy Watts struck out the manslaughter charge.

Morrow then changed his plea to one of guilty to causing grievous bodily harm. The judge said it would be 'an injustice' to send him to prison and conditionally discharged him for two years provided that he 'behave himself'. Morrow walked free from the court.

OVER FIFTY ELECTION WORKERS ARRESTED BY BRITS/RUC

CONTINUOUS HARASSMENT

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

REPORTS OF polling day harassment of Sinn Fein election workers and nationalist voters were still coming on Wednesday night, as the booths closed in the North's assembly election.

In North Belfast, Joe Austin's election agent, Denis Donaldson, was arrested from outside a polling station by the RUC and was later charged with obstruction.

In Forkhill, South Armagh, three Sinn Fein election workers were arrested by the British army from outside the polling booth. One of them, Adrian McQuade, aged 19, was left on the side of the road without his boots and told he would be shot after the election.

In Newry, South Down, four Sinn Fein election workers were held for over an hour by the RUC when bringing food to other workers inside the polling station at Newry High School. Electoral registers in the possession of the four were confiscated and they were wrongly informed that they could get six months imprisonment for having them.

In County Fermanagh, cars travelling from nationalist areas to the polling station at Belcoo were held for a UDR road-block for periods of three-quarters of an hour.

At the Jones Memorial School, near Enniskillen, nationalist voters were stopped and questioned by RUC men as they entered the polling station.

In West Belfast, leaflets being given out by Sinn Fein election workers, outside the St Kevin's School polling station on the Falls Road, were confiscated by the RUC.

IDENTITY

There were also reports of Workers' Party members challenging nationalist voters as they entered polling booths in West Belfast. On one such occasion, at the Vere Foster polling station in Moyard,

a local man was challenged by a Workers' Party member as he was claiming his own vote and was held by the RUC until he could prove his identity.

Harassment in West Belfast had reached new heights on Thursday of last week, October 14th, when nine Sinn Fein election workers were severely beaten and dragged out of a house in Andersonstown, where they had been attending an election meeting, by British soldiers and RUC men.

One man, Danny McCann, sustained a crushed vertebra as a result of the beating he received and while in hospital his visitors were intimidated to such an extent by the RUC that McCann signed himself out.

Another of the arrested men, Thomas Quigley, was subjected to brutal treatment in Castlereagh. Rifle butts were pushed against his neck for long periods, and his hands were twisted up behind his back.

The eight men taken to Castlereagh were charged with withholding information but when brought to court on Monday the magistrate dismissed the charges, saying they had been brought maliciously, and awarded each of the accused £35 in legal costs.

At a press conference called by Sinn Fein in the Lake Glen Hotel after their release, the Belfast Sinn Fein election candidates Gerry Adams, Alex Maskey and Joe Austin highlighted what they described as "a concerted campaign of harassment by the Brits and RUC aimed at intimidating election personnel and causing maximum disruption of our campaign."

ARRESTED

They reported that, at that time, across the North a total of 51 election workers had been arrested. And, closer to polling day, three-day holding orders were being used, particularly in Belfast and Fermanagh/South Tyrone, to ensure that key election personnel were kept off the streets until Thursday, the day after polling. This situation had, according to Gerry Adams, effectively led to election workers in key positions going "on the run" to avoid arrest before polling day.

Arrested on Monday morning, under the three-day orders, were three members of Joe Austin's election committee: the committee chairman, Gerry Reilly; transport director, Raymond Wilkinson; and Frankie Kane.

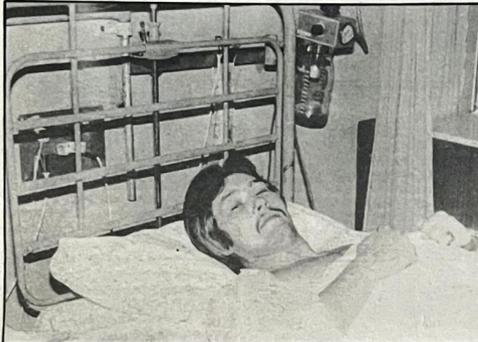
In Derry on Wednesday of last week, a large force of British soldiers forced their way into the Sinn Fein election headquarters while a meeting was in progress. They remained there for an hour, reinforced by the RUC, but eventually left when local people gathered in protest.

On Tuesday of this week, Cathal Crumley, who shared the Sinn Fein ticket in Derry with Martin McGuinness, was again refused bail. He was arrested at the beginning of the election campaign on the basis of statements made by an informer.

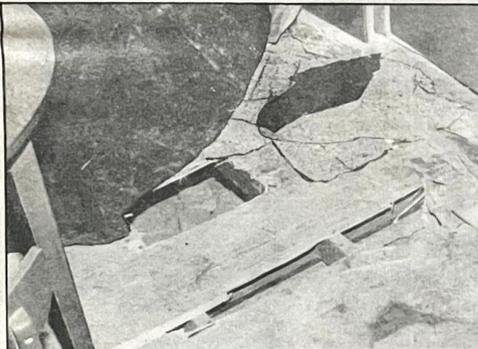
On Sunday, October 16th, British soldiers and RUC men forced their way into the Camlough election office of the Sinn Fein candidate Jim McAllister and J.B. O'Hagan. It was the latest in several raids on the office during the campaign.



● Alex Maskey with election workers Eddie Carmichael and Thomas Quigley who had been held in Castlereagh



● Danny McCann in Belfast's RVH prior to discharging himself



● Damage caused to a Belfast house where election workers were arrested by Brits/RUC



● Sinn Fein activists on polling station duty on Wednesday



● Part of Joe Austin's election team with voters in North Belfast



● Ruairi O Bradaigh (left) addresses Northern supporters



● J.B. O'Hagan receives a tumultuous welcome

Arrests risked for election boost

THE ARMAGH constituency was the scene of two well-planned Sinn Fein election boosts last weekend when two prominent republicans risked arrest to make personal appearances on the campaign trail.

The first, on Saturday night, was the Sinn Fein candidate in North Armagh, J.B. O'Hagan, who, as far as the six counties area is concerned, has been "on the run" for the last ten years.

He received a thunderous welcome in Lurgan when he appeared at a fund-raising social and addressed jubilant supporters.

On Sunday morning, the Sinn Fein president, Ruairi O Bradaigh, defied a British exclusion order banning him from the North, and made appearances outside churches in Dromintee and Jonesboro in South Armagh. He passed undetected through a British army/RUC check-point en route to the Dromintee venue.

FINE GAEL ARD FHEIS PRESENTS UNITED FACADE

Boring Irish Tories

BY KEVIN BURKE

THE DELEGATES assembled at last weekend's Fine Gael ard fheis in Dublin's RDS could have been lifted *en bloc* and transferred to the British Conservative Party conference in Blackpool earlier this month. They would not have looked out of place.

They were as well-dressed, well-heeled, and well-spoken as any other conservative middle-class party. And for all the social-democratic, liberal pretensions of the FitzGerald coterie of Leinster House deputies and Ballsbridge cronies, the party's grass-roots priorities remain law and order and the dismantling of state control in favour of traditional aspirations towards the sanctity of private enterprise.

As widely predicted, the Fine Gael conference was a low-key affair with internal squabbles under wraps for the weekend in order to provide a major, yet false, contrast to the riven Fianna Fail party.

For most of the shortened, one and a half day conference, delegates and those on the platform chatted contentedly amongst themselves as speakers bored the television with the party's policies culled from the vague and tedious 'economic recovery' programme published on the eve of the ard fheis.

VICIOUS

That policy, vague as it is, continues the Fine Gael monetarist longing for a balanced budget as quickly as possible. To do so it has held on to, and strengthened, its vicious economic attack on those least able to pay, cloaked now in what they believe is enough 'caring' flannel to succeed where their 1981 budget blundered.

On the other hand, their policies envisage 'restoring vibrancy and dynamism to Irish industry'; a turn of phrase which ignores the reality that that private industry cannot be 'restored' to a position which it never had but provides a cipher for transferring money from the pockets of the hard-pressed tax-paying workers and, under new Fine Gael proposals, tax-paying unemployed

people to the purses of the wealthy. The taxation and social welfare system needs reviewing according to Fine Gael in order, in those ominous words, "to restore the incentive to work."

If the capitalists' recession does eventually bottom out, plenty of starving and destitute labourers are going to be required at lowest possible wages for highest possible profits. Fine Gael, it would seem, want those labourers to be grateful as well.

DEFLATED

Even Garret FitzGerald's keynote address to the ard fheis on Saturday night was yawningly deflated with delegates, determined to stand up and ovate any hint at splits in Fianna Fail, brought to their feet more in boredom than elation.

Only the abortion amendment debate sparked any tension in the RDS air as Fine Gael's Justice spokesperson Jim Mitchell backtracked FitzGerald out of his electioneering pledge to the profilers to support a single-issue referendum.

Party policy was redefined as wanting a copper-fastened ban on abortion as part of a non-sectarian reformed constitution. A concept which must have Irish non-Catholics in tears of frustration.

The debate was full of restrained tension as an audience, clearly out of tune with their leaders' attitude, pretended that they were not really hearing the bugle sound retreat, and at the same time squirming occasionally as pro-life militants shouted condemnations. In the end, the hall visibly relaxed as the orderly ended and poor Garret was spared any major embarrassment in front of the television cameras.



Garret FitzGerald succeeded in burtoning up any major signs of internal tension at last weekend's ard fheis

It was a clear indication that whatever the effort, divisions on policy had, by general agreement, been consigned to private in-fighting rather than ruin the perceived advantage of Fianna Fail's public feuding.

OUTING

Even John Kelly, the Fine Gael right-wing's leader-in-exile, held his divisive views close to his chest for the annual public outing and waited a couple of days before once again voicing his assertion that a Fine Gael/Fianna Fail coalition makes more sense than a Fine Gael/Labour one.

Whatever the hoped-for public image of unity, which might indeed have been achieved at the weekend, the real battle continues within the party.

The Labour Party's decision on coalition, to be taken at its own party conference at the end of the month, will, of course, be of major significance to Fine Gael's chances of a quick return to power.

There remains within Fine Gael's party mythology the belief that they can become a one-party government very soon, although delegates privately discussing constituency chances are unable to put flesh on those claims to make up the 20 seats needed.

And, interestingly, in the Dublin area the party is apparently very worried about the threat from the Workers' Party which has, as electoral figures show, taken large bites out of the conservative vote.

In the incongruous world of Free State politics, that is a logicity.

Prisons exhibition

IN ORDER to develop people's awareness of the republican political prisoners in the Free State and their struggle, the Dublin Sinn Fein POW Department intends to mount an exhibition.

The POW Department is therefore asking supporters who have any photographs, letters, newspapers, etc., relating to the prison struggle in the Free State to pass them on or to contact the POW office with details.

Any material loaned for the exhibition will, of course, be treated with the utmost care and catalogued for the safe return to its owners.

All offers/donations should be made to: Sinn Fein POW Department, 5 Blessington Street, Dublin 7 (phone 308783.)

Prisoners meeting

IN SPITE of a last-minute change of venue, about 180 people attended a public meeting in Hemel Hempstead in Hertfordshire on Thursday, October 14th, to draw attention to the plight of Irish political prisoners in English jails. The meeting was chaired by TGWU shop-steward Arthur Hackett.

Michael Holden, a branch secretary and shop-steward in the ACTT, outlined the harsh treatment of the prisoners and, in particular, condemned the use of drugs in prisons generally as a means of psychiatric control in subduing 'rebellious' prisoners.

Liberties centre opened



SINN FEIN in Dublin's Liberties area has opened a new community centre at 24 Pimlico, staffed by members of the local Frank Stagg cumann who are also being assisted by members of Na Fianna Eireann.

An advice centre is operated at the premises on Mondays from 10.30 am to 12 noon, Thursdays from 7.30 pm to 8.30 pm and Saturdays from 12 noon to 2 pm.

A spokesperson for the new community centre stresses, however, that it is open all day, every day, except Sunday, and it is hoped that the people of the area will go there at any time and use whatever help the Sinn Fein members can give in organising against unemployment, bad housing and all the other deprivations which particularly afflict the Liberties.

Sinn Féin AGM

AT THE recently-held AGM of the Rinn Ó gCuanach Sinn Féin cumann, County Waterford, the following officers were elected: cathaoirleach, Irial MacMurchadha; leas-chathaoirleach, Padraig O Ceallaigh; rúnai, Alison Ní Chondain; cisteoirí, Liam Ó Ronáin & Carmel Ní Ailéin; oifigeach cairdeirín poiblí, Seamus Ó Ceallaigh.

Tipperary's death-trap housing

BY MAIRE DE BARRA

NINETY families, living in sub-standard houses, described as 'fire-hazards' in Tipperary town's Carronreddy housing estate, have recently been offered a choice by the Free State Department of the Environment either to have a solid fuel heating system installed at a cost of £900 to each family, or to continue struggling with outlandish electricity bills and fighting sickness and disease because of the extremely damp state of the majority of the houses.

Meanwhile, 60 more families around the South Tipperary area, living in similar housing, face a decision whether to agree to a recommendation from South Tipperary County Council that they pay for repairs in extra rent or continue to live in the death-traps and hope that eventually their houses will be condemned and demolished.

The flat-roofed, box-type houses were built in 1972 and it was generally accepted by all at the time that they should only be used as temporary accommodation for those in dire need for housing until more suitable houses were built.

Very few, if any, of the families in Carronreddy now have any hope of being rehoused, the only conditions which would qualify them being overcrowding or medical reasons.

One tenant commented: "If they leave us here much longer, they'll have plenty of medical reasons for moving us. The houses, built of plasterboard and alumin-



Tipperary tenants are faced with deteriorating conditions and rising rents

inium, are in extremely damp condition and the ceiling of one house recently caved in, leaving wallpaper hanging off the wall and buckets had to be used to collect the rain pouring in from the gaping hole in the roof.

Apart from dampness, the other major complaint from tenants relates to the electric air heating system. The system is totally uneconomical with tenants facing massive ESB bills every second month.

INSTALLED

In December last, Sinn Fein Councillor Finbar Kissane tabled a motion, which was unanimously passed by Tipperary UDC, that the solid fuel system be installed at no extra cost to the tenants. The total cost to each house is estimated at £1,500, and the Free State Department of the Environment is determined that each family will pay £900 of this in the form of £2.38 per week for the next 16 years in addi-

tion to their present rent which is paid on a differential rent system.

Commenting on the department's decision, Councillor Kissane said it was crazy to expect the tenants to have to pay for a mistake which was made by the authorities when they were planning the houses ten years ago.

As one tenant put it: "Why the hell should we pay for what should be our entitlement? And even after 15 years we would own nothing more than we own now."

Another woman, remarking on the present condition of the houses said:

"They should never have been built, and they are not even properly maintained. If we don't do repairs ourselves they will just fall apart."

Most of the tenants agree that the houses should be demolished and new ones built which, they claim, would cost less in both money and lives in the long run. A mother and her three young children were burned to death in one of the houses some years ago due to an electrical fault.

And a detailed report recently compiled by South Tipperary County Council on the 30-house scheme at Woodview, Cahir, claims that the houses offer 'comfortable living conditions' to the tenants, while they state the only major structural defect is the roof!

This, they propose, should be replaced at an estimated cost of £60,000 which is to be paid in extra rent by the tenants. These tenants are also objecting very strongly to this proposal and claim that they are being penalised for the deprivations of the houses.

ELECTION CAMPAIGN ENDS WITH NEAT LESSONS

Polling postscripts

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

PREDICTABLY, election fever rose by several degrees during the last week before polling day. A few SDLP posters were sighted on Belfast's Falls Road — but who needs posters when one has a daily official organ under the guise of *The Irish News*?

The media, throughout the campaign and particularly in the last week, did their best to whip up the electorate's flagging interest and promote what the BBC called 'the main parties', while Sinn Fein candidates continued to be ignored, unfairly treated, or their message distorted.

On Thursday, October 14th, a small IRA bomb explosion directed at British army soldiers in Ballymurphy in West Belfast, sent BBC reporters running to receive local RUC chief Jimmy Crutchley's version: a terrified population, a man rushed to hospital with a heart-attack, and extensive damage to houses. It was "a miracle that people were not killed or severely injured," Crutchley claimed.

As a local woman declared to Sinn Fein candidate Gerry Adams the same day, as he was on a canvass of the area:

"There are so many miracles here, it is becoming like Lourdes."

In spite of repeated protests to the BBC by Adams who, on his canvass, had been able to check that nobody had been rushed to hospital and that there was neither fear nor hostility towards him from the people of Ballymurphy, the television stories remained unchanged throughout Thursday afternoon; the RUC's version continued being taken as truth.

SECTARIAN

On Friday, the BBC's 'Spotlight' programme with its opinion poll caused controversy even before it came on the air. True to sectarian form, unionist politicians had refused to sit around a table with Sinn Fein candidates and the BBC, as might be expected, bowed to their dictat. The BBC then proceeded to offer Sinn Fein a separate recorded interview, after which the live debate would take place between the so-called 'main parties'.

In a statement, Mid-Ulster candidate Danny Morrison accused the BBC, and those same parties, of illegal practice by excluding Sinn Fein from a televised debate although it had 12 candidates — the minimum number required in order to be entitled to air-time.

The poll itself showed a bias in favour of 'moderate' parties — Official Unionists, Alliance and the Workers' Party. A question on voting preferences had the Alliance vote at 19%; while in last year's local council elections it polled between 8% and 9%. The DUP was given 15% by the poll, half the OUP figure, while in 1981 the DUP actually gathered more votes than the OUP.

A similarly-biased poll conducted by the ESRI for *The Irish Times* last spring had also shown Alliance and the Workers' Party with unbelievably high percentages.

Such a bias is usually caused by the location of sampling points — for instance in Belfast's city centre as opposed to working-class estates, and also to the reluctance of interviewees to disclose their political viewpoint to strangers, whether they think it may get them into trouble or that it does not sound respectable enough.

Overall, the polls showed a resigned but pessimistic electorate, with only 22% predicting that the assembly would work, and as many as 21% of Catholics stating that they would not vote.

Those TV viewers who remained undaunted by the survey's 19 tables of results, were then confronted by a rather dull-looking panel of four hopefuls, Frank Millar (OUP), John Hume, (SDLP), John Cush-



● Sinn Fein's Gerry Adams receives a warm response whilst canvassing in West Belfast. Nationalist voters in the six counties are glad of Sinn Fein's straight-talking, principled stance as an alternative to the SDLP

nahan (Alliance) and Peter Robinson (DUP), all nodding gravely at one another in alternate pairs, and desperately trying to prove how democracy can be made to work in spite of thousands of British soldiers on the streets and a deeply entrenched unionist ascendancy.

REFRESHING

Earlier on, the BBC's 'Nine O'Clock News' coverage of the election had given nationalist voters the refreshing taste of some straight-talking by West Belfast candidate Gerry Adams. Tackled for the hundredth time about the IRA's use of force, he dredged the cameraman to a British army foot patrol lurking across the street, saying to the obviously British reporter:

"How would you like it if I patrolled your street in uniform carrying a rifle and continuously arresting your people, in order to ask them for their names, dates-of-birth, and where they are going?"

As for the various TV election round-ups on Monday and Tuesday last, they offered but a re-hash of well-worn political messages, from the pathetic 'Workers Unite' from bumbling Seamus Lynch to the threat of UDI from Ian Paisley.

The press had also chosen its side early in the battle. For the purpose of this campaign *The Irish News* became the SDLP official organ. *The Irish News* constituency-by-constituency analysis never failed to point to the SDLP candidates' many qualities. Editorials about, and lengthy statements by, the SDLP with photographs of John Hume, covered most of *The Irish News*'s pages.

On Wednesday, October 13th, *The Irish News* leader listed the SDLP's achievements. Apparently, they had succeeded in convincing the United States government and Irish-American opinion not to support the Prior initiative. The leader added naively that this was important as Senator Edward Kennedy could well end up at the White House... *Irish News* editorials have never been renowned for their sharpness in international politics.

However, its new manager, Fitzpatrick, may well have over-played his hand in openly throwing the newspaper's weight behind one party. Future sales figures will tell the story.

In his final address, read out at all the Masses in his diocese last Sunday, Bishop Philbin condemned the 'rival factions' for the 'violence, destruction and murder', pointing to all but, of course, the British army.

The new bishop, Cathal Daly, who in 1976 co-authored a book entitled 'Violence in Ireland' and in 1979 was rumoured to have helped write Pope John Paul's Drogheda speech, was installed at St Peter's Pro-Cathedral off the Falls Road.

In his sermon, once again, he stated his views on violence which he wrongly sees as 'the greatest evil' and not as a symptom of a greater evil — injustice. He continued by patronisingly describing the crowd of well-wishers as 'the real Falls'. Seemingly implying that those who had not turned up were unworthy to represent that area.

Meanwhile, Free State premier Charles Haughey in an interview with *The Irish News* on Monday, October 18th, encouraged the nationalist voters to go to the polls in their numbers whilst, interestingly, carefully avoiding any hint of support for any party.

HARASSMENT

British army and RUC harassment of Sinn Fein election workers increased throughout the week and went so systematically unreported that Sinn Fein had to call a press conference on Monday, October 18th, in Belfast with six of nine election workers arrested the previous week, severely beaten and taken to Castlerough.

With a total of 54 arrests, Sinn Fein can certainly claim to be the party which the British fear the most in this election campaign.

But canvassing, leafleting, and postering went on undeterred and won the admiration of many undecided nationalist voters. Even other parties and hostile reporters had to admit to the fact that Sinn Fein had plenty of supporters, young and old, ready to go out and help with the election campaign.

But the level of harassment meted out to Sinn Fein was only one of a few instances which indirectly prove that the Sinn Fein stance is correct.

An embarrassing report by the Fair Employment Agency two weeks ago had pointed to continuing discrimination in many sections of industry and the civil service illustrating once again that the six counties are irreformable.

On Tuesday, October 19th, De Lorean Motor Cars was officially allowed to collapse after a ten-month agony, an eve-of-poll reminder to nationalists of the lack of commitment by Britain to reverse the tragic unemployment figures.

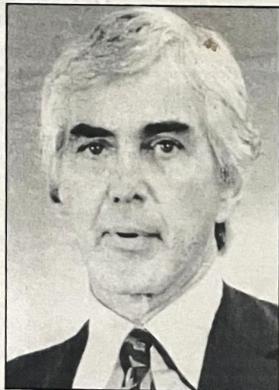
COCAINE

The dramatic revelation later the same day that John Z. de Lorean himself had been arrested in the United States for trafficking in £18 million of the killer-drug cocaine — purportedly to raise funds to save the Belfast operation — was, considering, in addition, that De Lorean must have funded the drugs deal with money creamed off from British government grants, an almost incredibly apt summing-up of the whole operation.

By Monday last, the world press was beginning to flood back to the Falls Road in search of a postscript to the spectacular accounts they had been dispatching home last year during the historic H-Block hunger-strike.

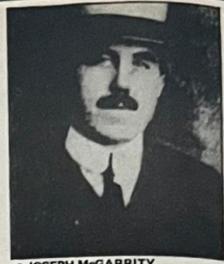
Most of them had already formed the opinion that republicans would be on their knees, defeated by the implacable Thatcher government and no longer enjoying the emotional support caused by the prison struggle.

At the time of writing, all one can do is hope that they will have to tear up their articles and write an entirely different story.



● John De Lorean: drug-trafficking with British government funds?

Bunker Hill



© JOSEPH MCGARRITY

THE NEAREST I ever get in spirit to America, in Dublin, is just inside the gates of Glasnevin Cemetery. Now and again I drop up to visit the republican dead, pray in solitude and meditate among the tombs. In and around the O'Connell Tower circle there are many graves with an American connection.

Over one such grave stands a high Celtic cross. The inscription panel at the base of the cross tells the story of a man born in Virginia in the United States. He spent his whole life in the medical profession and was the founder of plastic surgery. He was a great lover of Ireland and came to our shores many times in search of his grand-uncle's grave.

But his journeys and searching were in vain and he returned home to America sadly disappointed.

The man was Thomas Addis Emmet, the grandson of his namesake of '98 and the grand-nephew of the bold Robert Emmet, whose grave he sought.

The name Emmet spans the Atlantic Ocean from the days of Fort George Prison and the release of Thomas Addis Emmet, the '98 man, on condition that he would not return to Ireland. Far away in exile, his love for Ireland and her freedom never wavered. He supported the national movement in every generation and passed on to his children and his children's children the story and love of Ireland.

His grandson, Thomas Addis Emmet, set himself the task of finding the missing grave of Robert Emmet so that it could shine like a beacon as a place of pilgrimage for future republicans. As the end came to his long life, he decided that he would give to Ireland the grave of an Emmet. His dying request was that his remains should be laid to rest in the native soil of his forefathers, perhaps thinking that his own grave would remind others of the missing grave.

CONNECTIONS

Well, one grave that we have not found as yet is the grave of Robert Emmet. But we have in Glasnevin a grave with more American connections - a grave that should not be there at all.

That grave is of Roger Casement, whose last wish before he faced the English hangman was that his remains should be buried at Murlough Bay, County Antrim. The ghost of Roger Casement must be knocking at many doors.

While in Germany organising the arms shipment for Easter Week, 1916, Casement carried his own home-made identity card. On it he had written:

"If I die, to be sent to Joseph McGarrity, 5412 Springfield Avenue, Philadelphia, USA."

The name McGarrity means to republicans one of the greatest Fanians of all. He was, in the United States, the Clann na Gael link with the Irish revolutionary leaders of 1848, 1867, 1882, 1913, 1916, 1922 and 1940.

"Oh!" wrote Pearse to McGarrity, *"What I would give to see your yellow Rolls Royce driving up the driveway of St Enda's, Rathfarnham."*

McGarrity gave two fortunes to the Republican Movement. During the Black

and Tan period he travelled frequently between Ireland and America, devoting his time, energy and personal fortune to the struggle for freedom.

In his book of poems 'Celtic Moods and Memories', McGarrity has a special poem for Roger Casement containing 33 verses telling the Casement story and entitled 'Rory Bold':

*"You've heard of Rory of the Hill
And Brennan on the Moor
Who took the money from the rich
And gave it to the poor."*

*"But have you heard of Rory Bold
Who sailed across the sea
To seek for aid and seize a blade
To set his country free."*

*"And generations yet unborn
Will hear the story told
And loud proclaim the sacred name
The name of Rory Bold."*

In the shadows of the O'Connell Tower circle are yet more graves with an American connection: the graves of Rossa, King, Mellows, Boland and a host of others. A stone's throw from the tower circle are the graves of Terence Bellew McManus and John O'Mahony. John was the head-centre of the Irish Republican Brotherhood - the Fenian movement which was founded in America on St Patrick's Day, 1858.

SYMBOLS

Americans hold dear and sacred their symbols of freedom and nationhood - the Stars and Stripes, the Liberty Bell, the Golden Eagle and the Statue of Liberty.

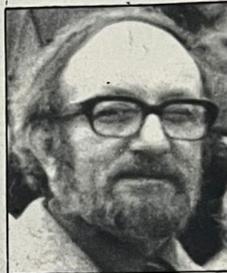
Beside O'Mahony's grave is yet another grave of an Irish patriot, John Keegan Casey better known as the poet and writer 'Leo' of *The Nation*.

Over Leo's grave stands a Celtic cross covered with symbols of Ireland, symbols that are held dear and sacred by Irish men and women at home and in exile - the symbols of harp, shamrock, round-tower, wolf-hound, rising sun, poems and songs of Ireland and the broken church destroyed by Cromwell.

Two other graves with American connections are the graves of two Laois 'Jergymen' D.W. Cahill of Arliss and Boston, and John O'Hanlon of Stradbally, St Louis and Dublin.

John O'Hanlon's family left Ireland two years before the Famine and settled in America. John entered the priesthood and served as a curate in St Louis for

THREE SHOUTS ON A HILL



By Eamonn MacThomas

BUNKER HILL is the twelfth article in the occasional series Three Shouts on a Hill by historian and broadcaster Eamonn MacThomas, in each of which he recalls personal and historical memories associated with a different hill and then gives three shouts on any subject of his choice.

seven years. Bad health forced him to return to Ireland and he served as a curate in St Michael's and St John's in Dublin.

John was a great patriot and scholar. Every evening he studied the history of Ireland and her people and later he began to write lectures and books.

One evening, as he was sitting in his room, a friend entered with the loan of a book. When John saw the title of the book his face lit up. He jumped up off his chair, held the book high above his head and cheered loudly.

The book was 'The Case of Ireland Stated' by William Molyneux. This was the book that sent England wild in 1698. It was ordered to be burned by the common hangman on Christchurch Hill. England feared its contents. The book stated that "the only right England has in Ireland is the right of the robber."

All the copies were gathered up and were carried in boxes to the hangman's bonfire. Like the Phoenix rising from its own ashes, unknown Dublin hands saved a few copies from the flames. For over 200 years the few books had remained in safe-keeping.

John decided, against advice from all quarters, to republish the book under his own name. If it were only for this, Ireland would owe a great debt to Fr John O'Hanlon. But Ireland owes more.

John's pen brought forth book after book on Ireland, her saints, scholars and patriots.

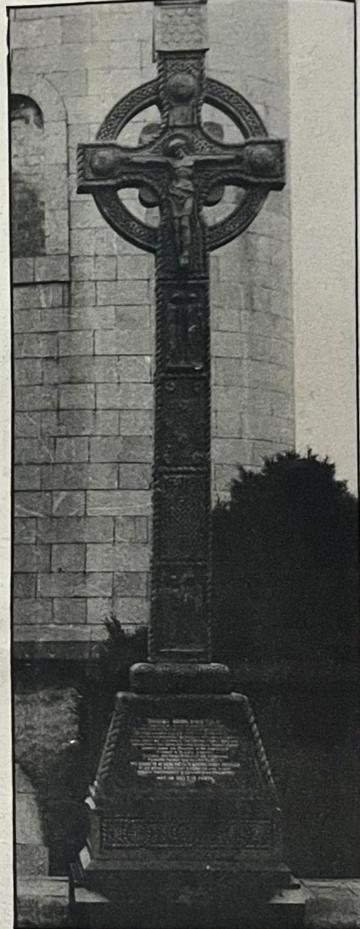
Later, he was transferred to St Mary's Star of the Sea, Irishtown. He was very proud of his new parish. The town grew up from the days when all the Irish were cast out of Dublin city in the 15th century. From the days when it was a crime to have an Irish name, speak Irish, wear Irish clothes, have hair on the face or over the lips.

Any English man found married to an Irish woman was guilty of high treason and was executed!

In Irishtown, John's mind turned to his people in America. While he was in St Louis he had gathered a lot of American folklore. He now began to think about writing a book on the Irish-Americans. After many years of research and study, his pen gave forth 'Irish-American History of the United States'.

MASTERPIECE

In two volumes, the work is a master-



© The Celtic cross memorial in Glasnevin Cemetery to Thomas Addis Emmet, grandson of Robert Emmet

piece. The story starts in pagan Ireland when the Irish people had remote and cherished traditions of some great magic island far away in the Atlantic Ocean.

In the bardic lore of ancient Ireland they called that island many names such as *oilean na mbeo*, island of the living; or *hy breasil, hy na beatha*, the great land.

The story moves on to the voyages of St Brendan and Christopher Columbus.

No doubt there were many Irish men among Columbus's crew but the first Irish settlers to set foot in the New World were sent as slaves by England. Sir John Hawkins was rewarded by the English crown for his plan of taking slaves from the coast of Africa in 1562. Later, his plan was put into force in Ireland.

In the year 1619, 12 ships left Irish ports with 1,266 slaves - Irish men and women over the age of 12 years and under the age of 40 years. 'Prisoners of war' the English called them.

As the slave trade continued to grow in Ireland agents came over from Bristol. These agents toured Ireland, taking men, women and children in navy press-gang fashion as slaves for their new colonies in America.

During Cromwell's time the English commissioners in Ireland gave Captain

John Vernon his slave dated September 14th, then Vernon was to take women as slaves from of Cork, Youghal, K and Wexford.

Captain Vernon got many ship-loads were writer stated that only and the toddlers were whole island was one of

Vernon was well-re lands in Clontarf, some bear his name to the du Avenue and Haddon's Rd were 'kings of the peal butchers of the slave-tra

The English set up th separate and use them the native Indians.

From Holland, Fr the settlers came to A set up New Amsterda king, Charles II, gave to his brother, the Duke set sail with war-ships, not fight, and New York.

As the English mended tured the new colonies



Statue of Terence Bellew McManus and John O'Mahony



People waiting to pass through customs inspection at New York c.1880

greedy and brought in new laws for the settlers and for Ireland. No-one was allowed to buy or sell except to an English man - Irish trade was ruined as a result.

The settlers had to sell cheap and buy dear and soon the spirit of revolt was among them. With the Irish to the fore, the road was paved to the Boston Tea Party and the Battle of Bunker Hill.

The battle was really fought on Breed's Hill but it became known as Bunker Hill. The English losses were so high that the name Bunker Hill became a watchword for freedom.

INDEPENDENCE

In November 1782, England, after many defeats, recognised the independence of the American colonies. Two years later, in the House of Commons in Dublin's College Green, Lord Mountjoy said:

"America was lost because of Irish emigrants. I am assured from the best authority that the major part of the American army was composed of Irish and that the Irish language was as commonly spoken in the ranks as English. 'I am also informed it was their valour that determined the contest, so that England has America detached from her by force of Irish emigrants.' Lord Mountjoy was killed in the Battle



Irish-Americans picket the White House, Washington DC, during a visit by British premier Thatcher in February 1981



The South Boston Irish North American Aid office: one of the many centres which reflects American solidarity with the cause of Irish freedom

of New Ross in June 1798. I suppose his lordship had in mind the great migration to America in 1772 which was the result of a flagrant act of tyranny. The fifth earl, and the first Marquis of Donegal, was one of the largest land-owners in Ireland. He set his rents so high that the tenants could not pay. The land was turned into pasture and the tenants were evicted.

In the two years which followed the evictions, 20,000 emigrants left Ulster for America. Soon the south and west of Ireland were caught by the emigration movement.

"In a few years," wrote the unionist historian Lecky, "the cloud of civil war, which was gathering over the American colonies, burst and the ejected tenants of Lord Donegal formed a large part of the revolutionary armies which severed the New World from the British crown."

In the year 1775, the Americans issued a special address to the Irish urging the identity of their interests. And, in the same year, Lord Chatham asserted: "Ireland is with America to a man." Or, as Walpole wrote to the Countess of Ossory: "All Ireland is America mad."

Is it any wonder that the Irish claim a very special position in the United States?

Firstly, our people were dragged to America as slaves. Secondly, our people were banished to America because the English and the masters took their homes and food. Thirdly, our revolutionary heroes sought refuge there after years in English jails. And fourthly, the revolutionary men and women, like Roger Casement, went there to seek aid for the struggle for Irish independence.

To any American politician today who listens to the voice of England and England's hirelings, I say only one thing: learn the history of America!

DEVOTION

Standing in spirit on Bunker Hill my first shout is for the Irish-Americans. We salute you. We are proud of your names and your support. We love you. Never once have you failed in your loyalty and devotion. Not only have you kept the spirit alive in your own hearts, but you have sown the seeds of freedom for Ireland in the hearts of your children.

My second shout on Bunker Hill is for the American-Irish. Brothers and sisters, we invite you to the land of your forefathers. Come over and walk among us. Visit our historical places. Experience

the warm friendly Irish people. Listen to our ballads, our stories and our traditional music in one of the oldest lands in the world.

My third shout on Bunker Hill is to Irish and American people everywhere. The question of Ireland today is the same as the question of America was 200 years ago.

The heavy British taxes, the unjust British laws and the British garrison soldiers led to the Boston Tea Party, Bunker Hill and the fight for freedom and independence.

English misrule in Ireland has been going on for 813 years. Any one decade of those years, from 1169 to 1982, is more horrible than any other invasion in the whole wide world.

The British prime minister, Mrs Thatcher, talks about the British 'spirit of the Falklands'. What about the spirit of the Irish nation?

What about the flame for freedom that has never been extinguished? The poet Dora Sigerson Shorter spelt it out clearly for Ireland and the world:

"And who dares quench the sacred flame?"

"And who dares give them blame? Since he who draws too near the glow Will break into a flame."

• Mála poist... Mála poist •

ALL letters should be addressed to: The Editor, 21st Floor, Republic News, 51/53 Falls Road (opposite 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1). Letters should be written as clearly as possible, preferably on one side of paper only. Names and addresses should always be included, even when not for publication.

Political bias

Comrades,

Irish political prisoner Gerard McLoughlin, who is being held at Maidstone Prison, has been refused a place as an extra-mural student in Philosophy at the University of Kent.

Students and some members of staff are protesting against this blatant act of political discrimination and demand his immediate admission. A campaign is being organised by the Irish Freedom Movement to extend the fight for Gerard's admission to other universities and colleges.

Gerard's application was supported by the faculty earlier this year. Like all other successful applicants he expected to take up his course in the first week of October. Suddenly, without any explanation, the authorities vetoed his admission.

Gerard is a political prisoner and a member of Sinn Féin. For the authorities these, apparently, were sufficient grounds to use their power to prevent the applicant from exercising his right to higher education. People who support the struggle for Irish self-determination are, it seems, not entitled to education. And the job of admissions' authorities, it appears, is to act as political commissars.

The decision of the University of Kent is a challenge to all anti-imperialist students and teachers. It is an attempt to extend the criminalisation of the Republican Movement and its political prisoners into the field of education.

All students and staff who support the democratic rights of the Irish people and of anti-imperialists in Britain are called upon to join the campaign for Gerard McLoughlin's right to study.

Irish Freedom Movement,
BM RCP,
London WC1N 3XX.

THE WAY FORWARD

A Chara,

It is good to see an increasing amount of coverage on environmental issues in *AP/RN*: viz Maeve Armstrong's 'Beyond Repair' article and some of the statistics quoted in your front page piece 'No Going Back' (*AP/RN*, October 14th). But perhaps a certain caution is advisable.

The struggle for better living conditions, more dignified employment (indeed, employment at all), and greater local self-determination, cannot be divorced from a wider republican struggle against British occupation and the internal betrayal by some Irish men and women of that struggle.

If the ballot paper that is held in one hand can be viewed as a symbol of a multitude of ways in which republicans can struggle for justice — including taking on environmental issues and even entering the current assembly election campaign — it should not be forgotten what is held in the other hand. It is, of course, equally important that one does not become myopic about the symbolism of the Armalite.

What gives Irish republicanism its edge in the struggle for justice (at least in Europe) is that it has the traditions and the visions to acknowledge both symbols. The armed struggle alone, even when it is won, still leaves the social dilemma so eloquently expounded by Connolly and (as some so often forget) by other socialists like Mollwo, Pearse and Cathal Brugha. But without that struggle the fight for better housing, for employment and all the other intrinsically local needs, will just leave many older people with the bitter feeling that 'We have been here before!'

The fight against slum housing, bad planning and inequitable distribution of resources, is an old story in England. Because those



● The struggle for better living conditions cannot be divorced from the wider struggle

involved did not have the traditions to take the struggle to a more determined level, the struggle failed in England — indeed, the situation was made worse and the riots of the summer of 1981 were the result.

Those who think that those riots were a step forward are sadly wrong (though many of us hoped they would be the forerunner of a creative community resistance movement). All that has happened is that the establishment has poured money into the trouble spots and now there are more 'social interest' groups in England's inner cities than ever before. Liberal concern is buying them off and it is easy because the communities have no tradition by which they can determine clearly what is right and wrong — what is just!

The Republican Movement, I'm sure, will not make those mistakes but there is no harm in being watchful.

Maeve Armstrong's article quotes a resident of the Moyard Estate in West Belfast as saying that they will take their case to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg if necessary. They should ponder carefully whether or not such an action would be a waste of their time.

Some months ago you published a letter in which I quoted the reply of the secretary of that same court of 'human rights' to a resident of the Donegal Gaeltacht; it quite bluntly pointed out that "no further letters in Gaelic will be acknowledged by this court..." It does not give one confidence that Strasbourg is truly concerned with human rights.

To all resident associations, action groups, tenant movements and local protest organisations, I would suggest that a more effective use of their energy would be to, deliberately and formally, associate themselves with the Republican Movement — they need that connection and republicans need them!

"As long as the primary form of getting what one needs is begging, cajoling, persuading, or demanding, for so long is the child's status preserved. And if all the liberal demands for adequate income, housing, health care, and education are granted and enshrined in law and institutions, then this status is perpetuated for all time throughout an entire population. Against this final impoverishment a battle is being waged, spearheaded by those who are tired of being denied, but joined by those who are tired of being

given." (Stephen Kurtz, 'Building the American Dream', Brian Anson, An English architect.)

A Chara,

The amazing thing about the life of the Republican Movement during this period is that in spite of the very narrow parochialism prevalent in, and openly practised by its members, the Movement itself has continued to flourish and grow, seemingly unimpeded by this insipid disease.

Please I call it, for experience has shown that instead of being a stimulus for keen rivalry for the common good of the Movement it has degenerated into a formidable obstacle to the creation of a genuine broad-based organisation with widespread popular support.

Whilst allowing for the present growth of the Republican Movement and the self-evident politicisation of its members, I would suggest that if it was unbridled by the growth of parochialism the Movement would have grown to unrecognisable proportions.

It is a daunting, even humiliating, ordeal to be a republican from an 'unfashionable' area and the criteria for involvement at whatever level within the Movement is that you work twice as hard as other republicans from the more fashionable areas. Make no mistake, this is the price of toleration and acceptability.

Therefore rather than tacitly accepting this trend the Movement should endeavour to extend its franchise to encourage greater participation in the revolutionary process by republicans everywhere as it will help to create the stage towards which all shades of republicanism would gravitate; without greater participation mass struggle is impossible, and without it no revolution is possible.

However, it is my observation that opening the floodgates to mass participation, as opposed

to a comparatively small, but well-oiled machine, touches the very heart of the debate which dictates the course of the overall struggle itself. Yet even allowing for the uniqueness of the liberation struggle in Ireland, I firmly believe that republicans can learn from other successful revolutionary wars. One glaring similarity among all these successes is that from proportionately small guerrilla numbers mushroomed powerful, all-embracing, popular armies which consequently swept away the forces of opposition.

I would be a fool not to acknowledge that circumstances differ from struggle to struggle, that what is necessary in one war does not apply to another, but one fundamental ingredient in all is the need for popular support and mass participation.

I do not for one minute suggest that parochialism is the only obstacle in the creation of a popular movement, nor am I naive enough to suggest that someone is amiss when republicans talk of protracted wars for as long as two principled individuals are prepared to take their chances against the forces of imperialism the struggle remains alive.

Yet the imbalance must be rectified, the snowball must be allowed to develop, for there is something intrinsically wrong when the Movement is compelled to court a sympathetic, and at times apathetic, nationalist community each time a crisis looms.

I would ask that republicans everywhere should consider their attitudes to this problem and to recognise the cancer of parochialism, while it manifests itself in elitism, as a very real barrier to progress.

In conclusion, I shall direct this comment to those who believe that political sophistication is the only antidote to imperialism:

"Whoever expects a pure social revolution will never live to see it. Such a person pays lip-service to revolution without understanding what revolution really is." (Lenin replying to critics of the Easter Rising).
G. Perlin,
Belfast.

Brú na nGall

A Chara,

Tá sé tugtha faoi deara again, le roinnt míosa anuas go bhfuil ciall Ghay Byrne ag cur cuid mhíath brú ar an pobal Gaeilch agus poblaicéadach téa a bheith ag cur amach a smuaint agus tuairimí gallda sasanacha an t-am go léir.

Fíú ar oíche Dé Satharn seo caite, chuir sé míosc orm nuair a chuala mé an fear sin, mas féidir é sin a thabhairt air ag cairní feoil de Valera, agus ní chuir sé fáin sum ar bith ann, ná ar an saoirse a bhain léitheoidh Phódráid Mhic Dháirí amach ar



● An Piarasach: iast!?

son na tíre seo. Bhí sé sin dona go teor, ach bhí sé níos measa fós nuair a chur Gay 'lofa' Byrne a ladar isteach sa scéal agus labhair sé ar thobac na Sasanaigh 'lofa, ar bhealach deas.

Duir sé nach mbeadh cursaí eacnamaíochta chomh dona ar

tír seo dá mba rud é go rabhamar mar chuid de Shasana. Meastar go dtuigfeadh an dteagmhas ciall gur mar sháil ar an baint a bhí ag an tír seo leo san am atá caite a d'fhógadfaí mar atá síad.

Ní bheidh aon dóchas don tír seo 'fhad is aon Byrne agus daoine mar é i bpostanna tabhachtacha. Nach mór an trua go raibh ar an bPiarasach troid ar iarradanna Bhaile Átha Cliath ag shriainn saoirse a bhaint amach ar son daoine nach bhfuil meas dá laghad acu ar an tír anois ná ar theange a n-aitheasca.

Dála an scéil, d'fhéadadh sibhse níos mó a dhéanamh ar son na teangeán ná mar atá sibh a dhéanamh anois.
'Fear Chonamara',
Contae na Gaillimhe.

Age of Orwell?

A Chara,

We would be grateful if you would publish this open letter to Mr Costello, proprietor of the Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan, and the Creighton Hotel, Clones.

Dear Sir,

It is very sad to think that the age of Orwell — where 'thought-control police' restrict the movements, thoughts' and actions of society — has reached Monaghan town and in particular the Four

Seasons Hotel, of which you are the proprietor.

How else are we the people of County Monaghan to understand your behaviour on the day that Michael Lynagh was buried when you ejected from your premises members of the Lynagh family and *Magill* journalist Vincent Browne, at the behest of (or order off) the Intelligence and Security Branch of the Garda Síochána, better-known as the Special Branch.

Were these people misbehaving or causing a disturbance? Were they drunk then? They were not! Their crime was to be members of, or associated with, a family which has long suffered persecution at the hands of the forces of 'law and order'.

To support, condone or cooperate (even unwillingly) in this persecution reflects badly on the character of any person, Mr Costello, but for a businessman who relies on the goodwill of young people in North Monaghan, Fermanagh, Tyrone and Armagh, it is a stupid policy.

You provide entertainment, Mr Costello. That is good. We urge you, however, to resist at all costs any future attempts to use you as a pawn of a discredited police force and to apologise either openly or in confidence to the people you have wronged.

PRO,
Tony Ahearne Sinn Féin cumann,
Clones,
County Monaghan.

Licence protest

A KILLINEY, County Dublin, man, Cairbe Ó Ciardha, has been fined £27 and threatened with seven days imprisonment in default, for his refusal to purchase a television licence in protest against the lack of Irish language programmes on RTE.

Ó Ciardha, a career guidance officer and married with three children, appeared in Bray District Court last Friday. He has said he will refuse to purchase a licence until such time as RTE fulfils its statutory obligation to the Irish language.

In its annual report for 1972 the RTE authority stated its objective to ensure that one Irish language

television programme, in addition to 'An Nuacht', would be broadcast nightly for adults. A decade later, despite the advent of RTE's second channel, the number of Irish language television programmes remains as low as it was in 1972.

RTE's neglect of children's programmes in Irish was particularly criticised by Cairbe Ó Ciardha. RTE did not broadcast any Irish language television programmes at all for children between Easter 1980 and Easter 1982.

Since then it has simply rebroadcast the 'Baile Beag' series, in which the programmes run for less than five minutes. The new autumn schedule contains no Irish language children's programmes whatsoever.



LISTOWEL RACES at the end of September has caused some well-publicised red faces in the gardai, with the attempted cover-up of a mystery road traffic accident in which one of the Special Branch cars accompanying the Fianna Fail Minister for Justice, was upended, and then deserted, in the early hours of the morning on a Kerry roadway.

However, the Listowel races have had other, unpublished, repercussions among the gardai. In Navan, County Meath, several gardai, acting on inside knowledge from a local stable, assigned several hundred pounds to two of their colleagues who were en route to Listowel. The money was to be placed on an outsider which did in fact come in at fairly long odds.

However, the two never reached Listowel and the bet was never placed.

Feelings ran very high in the Navan force when this was discovered, and things finally came to a head in the bar of the Ardboyne Hotel, just outside the town, when the disappointed members confronted the disappointers in a heated confrontation. Both uniformed and Special Branch men were involved, some nine or ten in all.

The scene now switches to Navan's Round O bar, later the same evening, where the two gardai had withdrawn from the Ardboyne to avoid their accusers but were again discovered by their colleagues who were, as can be guessed, even more emotional and irate.

Blows were soon exchanged and a rough-house quickly developed.

With the local guardians of the peace waging a civil war, the gardai from the next town, Kells, had to be called out to restore law and order.

Four gardai were taken to the local hospital in the end and one was detained with a suspected broken jaw.

☆☆☆

Irish fishermen, currently locked in battle with the Dublin government and the EEC, might well question the motives of their IFO representative Frank Doyle in the present dispute.

Doyle has done much screaming for the resignation of Fianna Fail Fisheries Minister Brendan Daly and little constructive talking about his members' legitimate case for the extension of their fishing in the Celtic Sea. At a meeting with Daly last week, Doyle arrived with three Fianna Fail deputies to back him. They were Bobby Molloy, Tom Bellew and Hugh Byrne, significantly all members of the '22 Club' who 'stood up and were counted' as anti-Haugheyites.

Another Fianna Failer, Euro MP Sean Flanagan, caused consternation last week by more or less demanding Daly's resignation in a speech in the Brussels parliament in which he also criticised the Haughey government — a unique development in Fianna Fail disloyalty.

Brendan Daly is, of course, one of Haughey's most loyal supporters which is the main reason why he holds the fisheries portfolio.

So IFO secretary Frank Doyle is apparently more concerned at involving himself in Fianna Fail storms on dry land than getting down to solving the problem of the Celtic Sea closure which has five of his members still lying in Mountjoy and hundreds of others risking their lives in the courageous, yet hazardous, port blockades.

☆☆☆

And what about that other Frank, Frank Cluskey of the Irish Labour Party?

He had his fellow Euro MP, Richard Balfe of the British Labour Party, hauled before the EEC parliament's Socialist Group for daring to associate with Irish Northern Aid people on a recent visit to the United States when he also met British Embassy staff there, the Friends of Ireland and many others.

Cluskey was incensed at Balfe's 'criminal irresponsibility' at associating with a 'possible front for the IRA'.

It must really be very annoying for Irish man Cluskey to have to remind these British that they must act like Brits.

☆☆☆

But don't run away with the impression that Cluskey is totally pro-British and will not defend really important Irish institutions.

An EEC committee has made certain recommendations on honesty in advertising which have led to suggestions from mischievous British Conservative Euro MPs that the slogan 'Guinness is Good for You' could be made illegal.

Cluskey has leapt to the defence of the beverage, claiming that he has substantial evidence that Guinness really is good for you and he will 'fight this one all the way'.

Meanwhile, Guinness's brewery have revealed that they have no intention of reviving that particular slogan which, in fact, they last used over 15 years ago.

Which was before Don Quixote Cluskey

Odds and ends

Burke's at the back
BY KEVIN BURKE

became a teetotaler.

☆☆☆

But how distressing it must be for Cluskey these days in Brussels.

Former British cabinet minister Barbara Castle is heading a group of British Labour Euro MPs who have tabled a motion in the European parliament that 'notes with regret that a number of Irish republican prisoners are serving long sentences in jails on the British mainland and are not permitted to opt for transfer to prisons near their homes.'

Co-signatories to the motion include the aforesaid Richard Balfe and other Labour members Alf Lomas and Roland Boyes.

☆☆☆

The defectors from the British Labour Party who now form the Social Democratic Party have nothing new to offer when it comes to a policy towards Ireland.

In fact, they had nothing to say on the subject at either this year's or last year's party conference.

They have now summed-up this disregard by the appointment to the Northern spokesman-ship of James Dunn who was a junior minister to Roy Mason during the days of the Barnsley maniac's direct rule.

During his period at the NIO Dunn is said to have only issued one inter-office memo — a circular dealing with the necessity of making sure all clocks around Stormont told the same time.

In September 1979, Dunn was twice convicted of shop-lifting offences in London and in June the following year was charged with causing a breach of the peace near his Liverpool home. He pleaded, in response to all the charges, that he was still suffering excessive strain from his spell in the North.

☆☆☆

Strange perhaps that a story involving women has not made the pages of the new woman-obsessed Irish tabloid, the *Daily Nudes-By-Christmas*.

Sixteen members of the Irish Women Workers' Union have been picketing Sandpaper Printers in Dublin, where the new newspaper and the ailing *Sunday Tribune* are printed, since Tuesday, October 12th.

The women, who were collaters, were all made redundant and then, later on, men were recruited to do their work.

A spokesperson for Sandpaper has said that the women can apply for any new jobs at the factory "if they are members of the appropriate union."

The male workforce is reported to be still passing the IWUW pickets, however, and our daily dose of Guaranteed Irish titillation is apparently assured.

English rock band Crass are being threatened with unspecified legal action after the release of their latest single which has sold 25,000 copies in a few days and put the British tabloids into apoplexy.

The record is entitled 'How Does It Feel (To Be The Mother of 1,000 Dead?)' and comments on Margaret Thatcher's Falklands adventure in what the *Daily Mirror* describes as a "most revolting, unnecessary, vicious and obscene" fashion.

Make that 25,001.

☆☆☆

An interesting recommendation this week from the Irish Catholic hierarchy is that there should be no introduction of civil divorce in any shape or form in the twenty-six counties.

The only divorce they are prepared to sanction is that administered by their good unmarried selves and termed 'nullity'.

And the wealthier you are the more astounding 'nullities' you can get away with. There have been several cases in Ireland of men, married for up to 20 years and with half-a-dozen children, getting these 'nullities' — in which the Church declares no marriage actually existed.

Very wealthy men, of course, who have then been married again in the Church to nice-looking 'dolly-birds' in civilly bigamous marriages, with the Church bastardising the existing children and the state bastardising the future children.

Which is, as they say, an Irish solution to an Irish problem.

☆☆☆

Last year in this column I gave a plug to Sean Flannery of Inchicore who was running in the Dublin City Marathon and using the occasion to raise funds for the H-Block Appeal Fund. He completed the course in just under four hours.

This year he goes again and is open to sponsorship to raise funds for Sinn Fein in Inchicore. Also running as Sinn Fein fund-raisers are Tony O'Flaherty who lives in North Dublin and John Crabbe who lives in Dublin's Pearse Street area.

All three will be using money raised to finance the expanding Sinn Fein community work in their local areas.

The marathon is on Monday next, October 25th, so you will have little opportunity to sponsor them in advance. But if, nevertheless, you wish to reward their masochistic exercises by donating something to their worthwhile political efforts, I will be happy to accept any such funds through this column and then pass them on.

As usual, I am sticking my neck out in doing this as, if you do not respond, the editor will draw his own conclusions about my inflated boasts of popularity and consign me to page 13.



WHAT'S ON

FOLK & COMEDY NIGHT
Featuring Paul Malone
8pm Thursday 21st October
The Brown Derby
James's Street
DUBLIN
Buses 21, 21A, 78 & 78A

ANNUAL COMMEMORATION SOCIAL

Featuring 'Shibbeen'
8.30pm Friday 22nd October
Pound Loney Club
BELFAST
Admission £1
Organised by the Lower Falls Commemoration Committee

ELECTION FUND DANCE

Featuring 'Blackwater Sound'
9pm Friday 22nd October
Two-Mile Inn
MIDDLETON
County Cork
Admission £1
Organised by Sinn Fein

DISCO

(In aid of the Liberties Community Centre)
8pm Saturday 23rd October
The Brown Derby
James's Street
DUBLIN
Admission 70p

KEVIN BARRY COMMEMORATION

3pm Sunday 24th October
Carty's Cross
RATHVILLY
County Carlow
Speaker: Ruairi O Bradraigh
Dublin bus leaves 5 Blessington Street at 12.30pm; fare: £3 adults & £2 children — book early!

VIGIL AGAINST NATO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS

Wednesday 27th October
GPO
DUBLIN
Organised by Irish CND

RELEASE NICKY KELLY PICKET

5 to 6.30pm Wednesday 27th October
Leinster House
DUBLIN

BALLAD SESSION

Featuring 'Brimmer' & 'Mysteries'
7.30pm Wednesday 27th October
The Fiddlers Green
Harold's Cross
DUBLIN
Admission £1

BALLAD SESSION

Featuring 'The Irish Brigade'
Thursday 28th October
McCaugh's Lounge
Market Street
MONAGHAN TOWN
County Monaghan
Organised by Sinn Fein

OVER 30s DANCE

Friday 29th October
Divis Community Centre
BELFAST
Light refreshments available
Bring your own beverages
Admission £1
Organised by the Divis Social Committee in aid of the pensioners' Christmas Dinner

BALLAD SESSION

Featuring 'The Jolly Beggarman'
8pm Friday 5th November
Brigid Burke's
Old Bawn
TALLAGHT
County Dublin
Admission £1.50

CEILI & BUFFET

Featuring the Bofield Ceili Band & special guest Seamus Tansy
9pm Friday 5th November
Moy Hotel
BALLINA
County Mayo
Speaker: John Joe McGirl
Tickets £3.50
Bar extension
Meal served 10.30pm sharp
Organised by N. Mayo H-Block Group

PRISON PICKET

1pm Sunday 7th November
Love Lane
WAKEFIELD
England
Organised by Sinn Fein

MANCHESTER MARTYRS COMMEMORATION

1pm Sunday 21st November
Alexandra Park
Moss Side
MANCHESTER
England
Organised by the Manchester Martyrs Memorial Committee

REVIEW PAGE

TV & RADIO

Cliché-ridden coyness

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

TO CELEBRATE the centenary of the birth of Eamon de Valera, RTE1 screened the first episode of 'The Age of de Valera' last Thursday evening.

The cliché-ridden commentary skimmed coyly over de Valera's role in the Tan War period and dismissed the Civil War as a conflict of 'brother against brother' - a phrase much loved by Free State apologists to avoid any true examination of the deep political differences between the pro-Treaty and republican sides.

It smacked of an uneasy haste to get past the controversial years before 1932. There were times when the commentary had no relevance at all to what was shown on the screen. Old film of men drilling in an internment camp was accompanied by the narrator talking about the cunning and resourcefulness of the IRA.

Bank Show' on UTV last Sunday night. 'Laurence Olivier - A Life' had the great actor himself talking to Melvyn Bragg about his early life as the son of a clergyman. He attributed his talent for drama to his education in a church school.

He went to Hollywood at a time when the aristocratic English features and cultured accents were very much in vogue. The hard-headed studio bosses, like Sam Goldwyn, did not mind using this as a box office draw, but were completely unimpressed by it outside of that and took no nonsense during the production.

ANNIVERSARY

Another anniversary which fell on last Friday was not so widely publicised as de Valera's. Radio Nova marked the 128th anniversary of the birth of Oscar Wilde with a programme including readings from his



'The Age of de Valera' avoids any true examination of the Civil War and its politics

plays and poems. Nova is becoming very literary these days, including in their choice of presenters. One of them is Paul Gallico, son of the well-known author of such books as 'The Small Miracle' and 'The Snow Goose'.

Jenny McIvor from Bunclara follows up their news stories with profiles of politicians and background information on the issues covered, and the head of the news section is also a woman, Sybil Fennell.

The BBC's play series 'Boys from the Blackstuff' on Sunday night was entitled 'Moonlighter'. It told the story of Dixie Dean, a former tarmac-layer now on the dole.

To supplement his dole money he takes on a 'nixer' and is harassed by the authorities. His teenage children lie in bed all day as they cannot get jobs either, and Dixie and his wife find it impossible to cope with the changed values.

Their son will not go to school and when Dixie tells him that he will not get a job without qualifications, the boy answers:

"You need nuclear physics to be a binman nowadays, dad."

Dixie has worked all his life and the indignities he is forced to suffer at the hands of the employment exchange snooters are particularly hard for him to take. It was a play which must have struck familiar chords with many similar workers, suddenly jobless with no prospect of future work.

Dark End of the Street

BY SEAN O'BRIEN

THE PROMISE of their first LP and the force of their live appearances has been successfully captured in the newly-released second album from Ireland's most adventurous musicians of today, Moving Hearts.

Entitled 'Dark End of the Street' the album is superbly produced and musically reflects the greater unity of sound developed since the group first began its experimentation with a distinctive Irish traditional/rock format.

Not that the sound is confined to those two musical areas alone, with strong jazz influences on two of the tracks in particular. On 'Half-Moon', the sax playing of Keith Donald is as inspired as his bass clarinet work on 'Let Somebody Know'.

The political and social element of Moving Hearts music is, as one would expect, well-reflected on the new album. 'Remember The Brave Ones', the first track and written by Barry Moore, is a concise comment on the finality of nuclear war.

'All I Remember', written by Mick Hanley, is the current hit single from the group which rocks, not too bitterly, the confessional influences which mould Irish youth - the Christian Brothers in particular. "And they made me, for better or worse

MUSIC

laws

We are fugitives from justice

We are going to be free

Plastic bullets and internment

They don't do the things we need

Oh! What will you do about me?

And finally, the track 'All-ende', written by Don Lange, recalls the murder of the elected Marxist leader of Chile.

"Where the good doctor lies with blood in his eyes and the bullets read 'USA'."

The lyrics could be criticised perhaps as too sentimental, but the protest is valid nonetheless.

'Downtown' is one of two instrumentals on the album ('Half-Moon' is the other one) and is probably the best statement of Irish traditional music moulded into rock music which Moving Hearts has made to date, and they are the leaders in the field, of course.

CONCERT

It is understood that although Christy Moore has now left the group, another album, including him, will be produced as the 'Farewell Concerts' were recorded with that in mind.

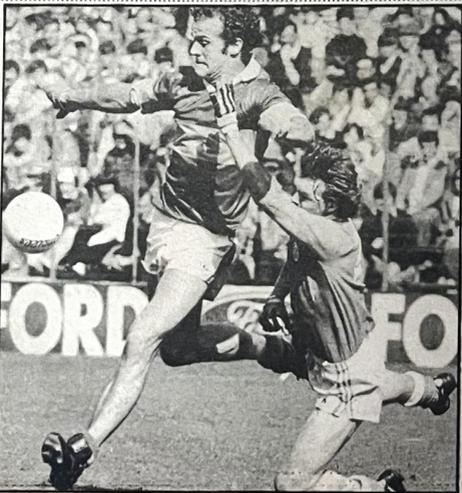
Beyond that, however, there



is no reason why Moving Hearts should suffer any lasting damage from his departure. Although Moore is universally acknowledged as the inspiration behind Moving Hearts, there are those who argue that his voice is not suited to rock numbers. Presumably they would feel more comfortable

with his more familiar style in singing the more plaintive 'Dark End of the Street' and 'Allende' on this current LP. Indeed, Declan Sinnott who sings 'Let Somebody Know' would have the more flexible vocal sound more familiarly associated with rock. Mick Hanley, writer of 'All I Remember' and

the group's new lead singer, would also fit this category. Of course, that is a matter of opinion and those who find Moore's voice incongruous in his Moving Hearts rock numbers might be said to still be taking cover behind the musical barriers which the Hearts have broken down.



Ár gCluichí i ngéibheann

LE AN RIANACH

LE GAIRID tá tuairiscí ag teacht amach as na Blocanna, ní seo an chead uair ach oiread, á rá go bhfuil an drong seiteach ag caitheamh anuas ar gach sort gaelachais, agus ar gcluichí go hairithe. Deir na coimheadaithe nach bhfuil cead ag na cimi na cluichí Gaelacha a imirt mar níl na rialacha acu! Deir siad fosta nach cluichí idirnáisiúnta iad agus mar sin de níl siad ceadaíte naobh istigh.

Ta se soiléir le feiceáil go bhfuil na coimheadaithe albanacha seo ag úsáid gach uile seans a fhaigheann siad chun a goosa a chur isteach ar gach rud gaelach. Agus cad é ta dreamanna cosúil leis an CLCG agus Conradh na Gaeilge ag deanamh faoi dtaobh de. Chan mórán mas fíor don seála. Ta se thar ama anois do na daoine i CLCG seasamh suas agus rud no gríofmh cinnte a dheanamh.

Nuair a mbíonn daoine taobh istigh aithníonn siad gur Gaeil iad agus mar gheall ar sin deannadh

siad gach iarracht greim a fhail ar cibe Gaelachais ata iontu in amanna an teanga agus amanna eile na cluichí.

Ta a fhios ag na Sasanaigh seo ach níl se maith go leor acu go bhfuil corp an chime faoi ghlas acu is mian leo intinn an chime chomh maith.

Ta orainn a thuisceint go soiléir go bhfuil fuath ag na coimheadaithe agus ag na sasanaigh ar gach rud gaelach agus sin an fath a mbíonn siad mar sin.

Ná 'dean' deármad nach rud

úr nua seo. Seo cuid de polasai na nGall agus bhíodh ariamh on chéad la' a tháinig siad go hÉirinn. Tá fuath acu ar chultúr na hÉireann cionn is go ceoltaíonn ár gceultúr. Is e sin, ceol, teanga agus cluichí srl, nach Gaill muid. Agus a fhad is ata daoine sa taobh seo tire eolach ar an chultúr ní bheidh Éire faoi smacht ag na Sasanaigh.

Seo anois an t-am le rá go poiblí le gach cumann de chuid an CLCG go gcaithfidh siad gníomh a dheanamh faoi choinne na cimi. Caitheadh an Cumann Luth Chluis Gael a rá le na Sasanaigh éirí as an amaidí ata ar bun acu sna blocanna.

Níl cead ag na cimi' Gaeilge a labhairt na a cimi' fhoighlinn agus anois ta oosc ar ár gcluichí. Ta ar gceultúr faoi ionsaí go foill. Scriobh chuij an runai de gach contae in Éirinn agus cuir ceist orthu cade ta siad a dheanamh faoi seo. No an é gur cuma leo??

Coirpíoch cogaidh

LE DONNCHA MACNIALLAIS H3

I NDAIADH an dara cogaidh domhanda le linn triallacha Nuremberg a bheith ar siúl, ba nos leis na Naitsithe a rá gcosaint féin ar na coireanna a bhí curtha ina leith nach rabhadh ach ag deánamh rudaí ar ordaithe a gcuid oifigh nó fiú nach raibh a fhios acu cad a bhí ar siúl.

Ar ndóigh níor glacadh leis seo mar leithscéal agus daoradh an-chuid acu as na uafás a rinneadh in aghaidh an chine daonna. Níor stad a leithéid de eagóir sa domhan áfach, trua a rá.

Le linn agóid na plúide anseo i mBlocanna H na Ceise Fada bhíodh lía i ndiaidh líe céasadh á imirt ar na cimití cogaidh ag na bardaigh gíobúil, sceal ar a mbíodh eolas mhaith ag na húdaráis idir rialtóir, ball Bhoird na Gúaireoirí agus daoine nach iad.

Anois os rud é go bhfuil an agóid sin tharainn agus lena chois an bhíodhliacht (ní as maithas a gcoirthe a stad na bardaigh seo, ach ar mhaithse lena leas-sán féin, mar ní le fear linnoctha an chosaint a bhíodh siad ag plé an dá iniúil). Bíonn na bardaigh ceannann céanna, gur dul thar fóir le minniú do gach ar duine a éistfidh leo conas mar a duine a éistfidh an domhain orthu dá bhíodh dóibh (agus dáir gcosadh, dáir n-éist, dáir stúigadh, ta an liosta gan teorainn nach móir).

Bhíodh sé domhain go deimhin, adeir siad ach cad a dhéanfa-sa im áiteas féin? Deir siad go léir gan éis-

teacht beagnach go mbíodh faoi ordúithe ós na rialtóirí is eile agus ar ndóigh ní leasc leo an míleán a chur ar a gcomradaithe.

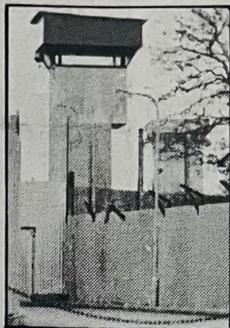
B'fhéidir go sílfhead duine anseo is ándóigh go bhfuil beagán den bhfirinne sa mhéid a bhíonn le rá acu - ar ndóigh nach gcaillfidís a bpostanna mura ndéanfaidís de réir mar a ordóidh dóibh.... Seafóid!

Ní gaoim ach smaineamh ar bhardach amháin atá ag abair anseo fós chun an leisceal sin a scaipeadh ón'tintinn.

Ní bhíodh an bardach áirithe seo chomd dona sin. Déanta na fírinne ní ghlacadh sé páirt ar bhi i leasach cimití agus tugtaí "Seán Lach" air mar leasainm dá chionn sin. Ach cad é an dearcadh a bhí ag an chomh-bháirdéirí air? Cúlchaint agus "gráthóir na Sealandach" a thabhairt air.

Ar tharla aon rud go h-oifigiúil gur bhardach seo? Níor tharla cé gur fórchinnthe nach ndéanfaidh sé aon dul chun cinn i seirbhís na bpríosúnach.

Smáoinigh fosta ar an sult a bhaineadh na bardaigh de réir dealrimh as léaslát agus mar sin de a



thabhairt dúinn. Níl, ní féidir glacadh lena leithscéalta in aon cheart, ach ní hionann sin is a rá gur chloir nó gur mhaith liom féin na le h-éinne eile a bhí ar an agóid dófatas a bhaint astu.

I ndáiríre ní fiú na daoine úd; is trua liom iad. Cad a dhéanfaínté sin, a fhiafraim diom féin uair-eanta dá mbíodh an bhóir ag ar gcos eile mar adeirtear. Bheadh stíl agam go dtabharfaí "Donncha Lach" orm. (Aon rud ach "An Francaich", "An Fear Glic", "An Craiteoir", "An Phéist", "Beal Mór" - leasainmneacha a thugaimís ar na bardaigh agus iad tuille acusan de bharr a gcuid treithe.)

Comradh

FITZSIMMONS, Francis; SURGENOR, Joey, (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol's Francis Fitzsimmons and Joey Surgenor who were killed on active service on October 16th 1976. "We must take no steps backward, our steps must be onward, for we are the martyrs who died for you, for me, for this country, will haunt us for eternity." Always remembered by Chris O'Donnell.

FORSYTHE, Martin, (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Martin Forsythe, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who died on active service on October 24th 1971. Fuair sé bás ag troid ar son na saoirse. Gortaíodh go dtí na mílte agus comrades in gortaíodh by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

MCCLELLAND, Tony, (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our friend and comrade Tony McClelland whose third anniversary occurs at this time. "He is laid now in the grave where the weeping willows wave, O son of Ireland brave, sweet farewell to thee." Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for him, remembered by his mother, father, brothers, sisters and Gerry (Case 10, Long Kesh).

MCKENNA, Martin, (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Martin McKenna, Belfast Brigade, Óglaigh na hÉireann, who died in a car accident while on active service on October 23rd 1979. I measc laochra na nGael go raibh a anam. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

MCKENNA, Martin, (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our friend and comrade Martin McKenna who was killed in a car accident on October 23rd 1979. Always remembered by Val and Dolores Lynch and family; and Cathal McRory, Dublin.

MCKENNA, Martin, (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Martin McKenna who was killed in a car accident on October 23rd 1979. Always remembered by Peter, Paul and Liam.

MCKENNA, Martin, (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear friend Vol Martin McKenna whose anniversary occurs at this time. Always remembered by Sue and Davie Knight; and by Mary, Joe and Family Circle.

MCKENNA, Martin, (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear friend Vol Martin McKenna whose third anniversary occurs on Saturday 23rd October. Thus se a raibh ag ar son na saoirse. Always remembered by his friends Tommy and Ellen and children Stephanie, Rory, Tracey and Bronagh Sinead.

MCKENNA, Martin, (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Martin McKenna who died on October 23rd 1979. I measc laochra na nGael following a lengthy illness. Maureen was an unflinching opponent of Britain's occupation of the six counties and the Free State's treachery. She will be sorely missed.

MCKENNA, Martin, (3rd Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear friend Vol Martin McKenna whose third anniversary occurs on Saturday 23rd October. Thus se a raibh ag ar son na saoirse. Always remembered by his friends Tommy and Ellen and children Stephanie, Rory, Tracey and Bronagh Sinead.

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THIS WEEK we begin a series of basic Irish lessons, designed to help beginners get an initial grasp of the language. A new lesson will be printed each week and suitable revision exercises will be provided from time to time.

We would welcome comments on the lessons, from both beginners using them and those more fluent in the language, as the series continues.

Irish Lesson

LESSON 1

mór (more) - big
fuar (hoor) - cold
tu (th) - hot
og (oge) - young
asta (aysta) - old
glan (gion) - clean
salach (soloch) - dirty
tin (teen) - sick
iniú (inyuv) - today.

tá mé (thay may) - I am
 tá tú (thaw thoo) - you are
 tá sé (thaw shay) - he, or it, is
 tá sí (thaw shee) - she, or it, is
 táimid (thaw-imeed) - we are
 tá sibh (thaw shiv) - you (plural) are
 tá siad (thaw shee-ud) - they are

PRONUNCIATION: The pronunciation given in brackets is as near as possible to the sound.

GH is sounded as in **LOCH ERNE**.

D and **T** before **A, O** and **U** are thick, spoken with the tongue pressed against the upper front teeth.

DH and **GH** are like a **G** far back in the throat - almost a gargle.

PHRASES
 Dia dhuit (deya ghut) - God bless you. Said on meeting a person.

Nollaig shona dhuit (nully hounna ghuit) - Happy Christmas to you.

... **Ta se fuair iniú** (thaw shay fuair inyuv) - It is cold today.

Three ways of saying "How are you?"

1. Conas 'ta tú? (Kunnas thaw thoo) - Munster.

2. Cé 'chaoi' bhfuil tú? (kay haw thool thoo) - Connacht.

3. Goidé mar 'ta tú? (gidéj mar thaw thoo) - Ulster.

REMEMBERING THE PAST

The man from God knows where

BY PETER O'ROURKE

THOMAS RUSSELL, a Protestant and a son of a British army officer, was born at Betsborough, Kilshinick, County Cork, in November 1876. At the age of 15 years he joined the British army himself and served in India for five years, where he was appalled by British atrocities against the native population.

He returned to Ireland and settled down on a small farm near Dunganannon. He was made a Justice of the Peace for County Tyrone, but threw the job up within a month, declaring:

"I cannot reconcile it to my conscience to sit as magistrate on a bench where the practice exists of inquiring what religion a person has before investigating the charge against him."

Of Thomas Russell, Wolfe Tone wrote:

"About 1798, I formed an acquaintance with my invaluable friend Russell, a circumstance which I look on as one of the most fortunate of my life... I think the better of myself for being the object of esteem to such a man as Russell."

Thomas Russell was with Tone at the founding of the United Irishmen in 1791 and became the society's chief organiser, as well as being made supreme

commander in County Down. In the summer of 1796, he published a long and powerful pamphlet entitled "A Letter to the People of Ireland", boldly styling himself on the title page "A United Irishman". He drew on himself the attentions of the government as the letter ran through several editions.

In September of the same year, Russell was arrested and was held in prison in Dublin throughout the 1798 rebellion, and then in Scotland until his release in 1802. He was not charged with any offence.

He emerged from prison, in his own words, "more determined than ever to serve the cause of Ireland." He was soon immersed in Emmet's plans for another rising.

Following the failure of the rising and Emmet's arrest, Russell went to Dublin to try and help him escape. He was captured himself and put on



● **THOMAS RUSSELL** is a traditional, charged with high treason. On October 21st, 1803, Thomas Russell was hanged. His mutilated body was buried in the churchyard of Downpatrick Parish Church. His story is recorded in the poem "The Man from God Knows Where" by Florence M. Wilson.

SYMPATHY

BRADLEY, The Terence MacSwiney Sinn Féin cumann, West London, and the family of our dear comrade Maureen Bradley who died on October 11th

GREETINGS

- FORDE, Paddy, (Portlaoise).** Happy birthday for October 27th, darlin'. I love and miss you every day. Love from Marie.
- FORDE, Paddy, (Portlaoise).** Happy birthday, daddy. We all love you. From Declan, Terry, Barbara and Patricia.
- FORDE, Paddy; GAVIN, Jimmy; HARTIE, Gerard; SLOAN, Eugene; SORAGHAN, Seamus, (Portlaoise).** Birthday greetings and best wishes, lads. From the Sinn Féin POW Dept, Dublin.
- GAVIN, Jimmy, (Portlaoise).** Happy birthday, Jim. Thinking of you always. From your loving wife Phyll xxx
- GAVIN, Jimmy, (Portlaoise).** Happy birthday, dad. Love from Martina, Michelle, Mandy and Maxine. xxx
- GAVIN, Jimmy, (Portlaoise).** Happy birthday, dad. Love from Maria, Alan, Richard, Lisa and grand-dad. xxx
- GAVIN, Jimmy, (Portlaoise).** Happy birthday, Jim. From Essie and family, xxx
- LENGHAN, Mark, (Crumlin Road).** Happy birthday to you, Pats. Sorry you are not with us this time. We still love you. From Deirdre, Terry, Conor, Aina and Colm.
- LENGHAN, Mark, (Crumlin Road).** Happy 22nd birthday. We think of you

Draw results

Sinn Féin National Finance Committee Summer Draw 1st (holiday): John Donovan, 15 Bay

HELP THE PRISONERS' DEPENDANTS

STPP

AN CUMANN CABHRACH and GREEN CROSS

Donations, enquiries and offers of help to:

The Secretary,
 The Central Committee,
 An Cumann Cabhrach,
 c/o 44 Parnell Square, Dublin.
 Telephone 747611 or 726932.

Donations, enquiries and offers of help to:

The Secretary,
 Green Cross 73,
 11a Springfield Road, Belfast.
 Telephone 229635.



● Women from Belfast's Moyard Estate pray following Gerard Smyth's death

HOUSING CONDITIONS BLAMED FOR DEATH OF MOYARD BABY

A terrible sense of loss

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

THERE IS a terrible sense of loss and helplessness hanging in the atmosphere when someone dies. People sit around, clumsily trying to make small talk, trying, at all costs, not to talk about what they feel, what hurts them, what they yearn to yell aloud in their sorrow. Instead, they remain numb, their grief burying itself in the pits of their stomachs. That extreme sense of grief is — even for those not directly related to the dead person — one hundred times multiplied in the case of a small infant's death.

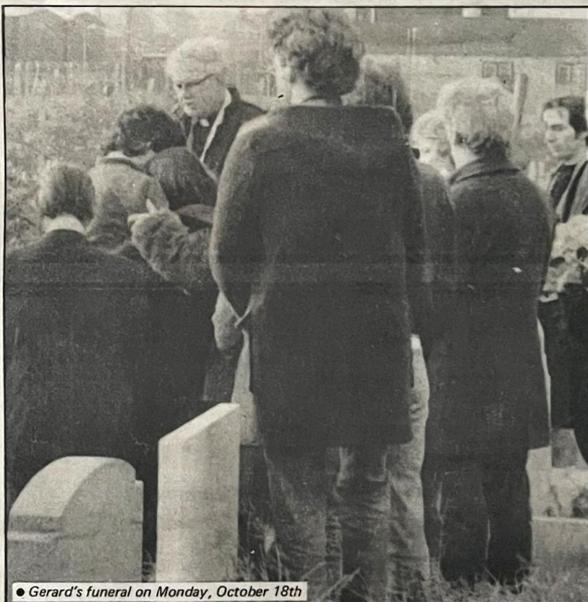
On Saturday afternoon, October 16th, I visited the maisonette of Mrs Catherine Smyth in Belfast's Moyard Estate; accompanying me were two members of the local Housing Action Committee, Margaret Keenan and Bridie Lavery. We waited in the living-room where Catherine and her mother sat talking to us. Friends came in and out. In the corner of the room an empty space had been prepared, a crucifix and pictures of the Sacred Heart and Our Lady dominated the room.

The little white coffin was carried in and placed in the corner. Catherine clutched on to her husband, Gerard, sobs shaking her tense body, the anxiety of waiting momentarily released.

Looking at the tiny body which filled the length of the coffin, you would all but think that 17-month-old baby Gerard was sleeping, his fair hair rested on his high forehead, his little hands were joined. The only indications of his death were in his purple coloured fingernails and lips.

ISOLATION

Gerard Smyth died on Thursday afternoon, October 14th, from severe gastroenteritis, the symptoms of which are vomiting and diarrhoea, just 15 minutes after he was admitted to the isolation unit in Belvoir Park Hospital. The delayed diagnosis of his condition



● Gerard's funeral on Monday, October 18th

by the family doctor until shortly before he died and of a Contact Bureau doctor, who failed the previous night to recognise the severity of Gerard's symptoms, may well have contributed to his death.

But ultimately the cause of the virus originates from the inhuman living conditions and health hazards which pertain in the Moyard Estate.

In July this year, a mother and her baby narrowly escaped death when a fire broke out in an upstairs flat in the estate. The mother had to push her baby through the window and then jump out herself because there are no fire-escapes or fire-exits in the maisonettes. They both sustained severe injuries.

On August 2nd, 2½-year-old Martin Conlon from Springfield Park, only yards away from the Smyth's home, was admitted to hospital. He had contracted a mild Polio virus which his mother, Louise, believed was directly

related to leaking sewerage from Moyard's inefficient drainage system.

Over last weekend, another five children were admitted to Belvoir Park Hospital, two with a more serious form of gastroenteritis. Margaret Keenan, Housing Committee secretary, points out, however:

"These latest cases are not isolated by any means; over several years there have been many families affected. Usually children, from small babies to three years old, contract it but adults also take it. More than one person in a family have taken it and more than once in the same year."

WIDESPREAD

Unemployment and widespread poverty haunt the Moyard Estate; the social sicknesses which cripple just as destructively as any physical illness. Mrs Keenan says:

"People here don't have enough money to buy nutritious, body-

building foods. They are therefore more susceptible to picking up germs and viruses."

The reaction to Gerard Smyth's death from the Department of Environment (DOE) and the Housing Executive was sickeningly typical, with each passing the buck to the other, both equally disclaiming responsibility for the bad conditions in the estate.

In reality what they were saying was that they didn't give a damn what caused this baby's death as long as they didn't get lumbered with the blame nor are they seriously prepared to find out or remedy the situation to avoid further deaths. And all because of their malicious, bureaucratic negligence.

Accommodation in the estate, the Housing Executive admitted two weeks ago, is 'inferior'. Spending money on Moyard through patchwork face-lifts and repair work is useless.

CRISIS POINT

Housing Executive chief Charles Brett, last week in the Executive's 11th annual report, described housing problems in the six counties as having reached a crisis point, adding that the situation was 'profoundly worrying'. There is a shortfall of between 30-60,000 in new homes needed as opposed to those available. According to the report, even if every sub-standard house in the North could be renewed or replaced tomorrow there would still be a 'dire shortage of homes'. A go-ahead from direct-ruler James Prior to allow the Executive to start 5,000 new houses a year, over a period of years, is conditional however on a sizeable contribution being extracted from already over-burdened tenants in the form of increased rents.

Increased rents lead to increased poverty and so the twisting spiral of repression chokes those already living well below the poverty line in nationalist ghettos like Moyard, Divis, Unity, and numerous other areas throughout the six counties.

Charles Brett and James Prior had no occasion to attend the funeral of little Gerard Smyth on Monday last. But then again, he was not a victim of 'terrorism' — he merely died of gastroenteritis. You can ask yourself who the 'terrorists' are in this case.