

An Phoblacht



REPUBLICAN NEWS

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THE WAR GOES ON

THE DEATH of three RUC men in a massive land-mine explosion near Lurgan, County Armagh, on Wednesday afternoon, has set the record straight on two counts.

Firstly, to those sound republican supporters who were genuinely concerned that the Leadership's endorsement of Sinn Féin's electoral intervention might in some way mean a diminishing of the importance of armed struggle, it represents a positive affirmation that these two aspects of republican resistance go together without contradiction. They complement each other.

Secondly, to those enemies of the Republican Movement who have employed every conceivable tactic to undermine nationalist support since the ending of last year's hunger-strikes, particularly the use of paid informers, psychological operations and black propaganda, it is a clear demonstration that the IRA's determined guerrilla war is too deeply rooted in the nationalist people's rejection of the Northern state, and its sectarian oppression, for such tactics to damage the republican cause.

The three RUC men — one of them a Catholic sergeant — died shortly after 2.30pm on Wednesday when a huge IRA land-mine, estimated at more than 1,000 lbs, was detonated by command wire under their armour-reinforced unmarked patrol car as it drove along a country road near Lurgan.

All three died instantly as the explosion blew the car thirty yards off the road and into an adjoining field, and caused a massive crater 60 feet

in diameter and at least 25 feet deep. It was the IRA's most successful land-mine attack since five British soldiers died, on May 19th last year, when their six-wheeler saracen was decimated by a 1,000 lb bomb at Altnaveagh in South Armagh.

REPRESSION

One of the first on the scene after the IRA attack on Wednesday was the chief architect of the RUC's repression of nationalists, Chief Constable Jack Hermon, who hypocritically bleated that the RUC patrol had been "responding to a normal call for assistance from the community."

The irony of Hermon's claim to command a 'police' force, or anything other than the loyalist paramilitary murderers that the RUC are, will not be lost on those who recall the cold-blooded killing of 16-year-old Michael McCartan, or of Mrs Norah McCabe and their other plastic bullet victims, or any of the rest of the catalogue of murder and brute repression that Hermon's RUC has inflicted on the nationalist community.

For them there is only satisfaction that another three of these thugs have got their just desserts, and that the revolutionary IRA has struck yet another hard blow against the British occupation.

VOTE SHAKER

-Sinn Féin take five

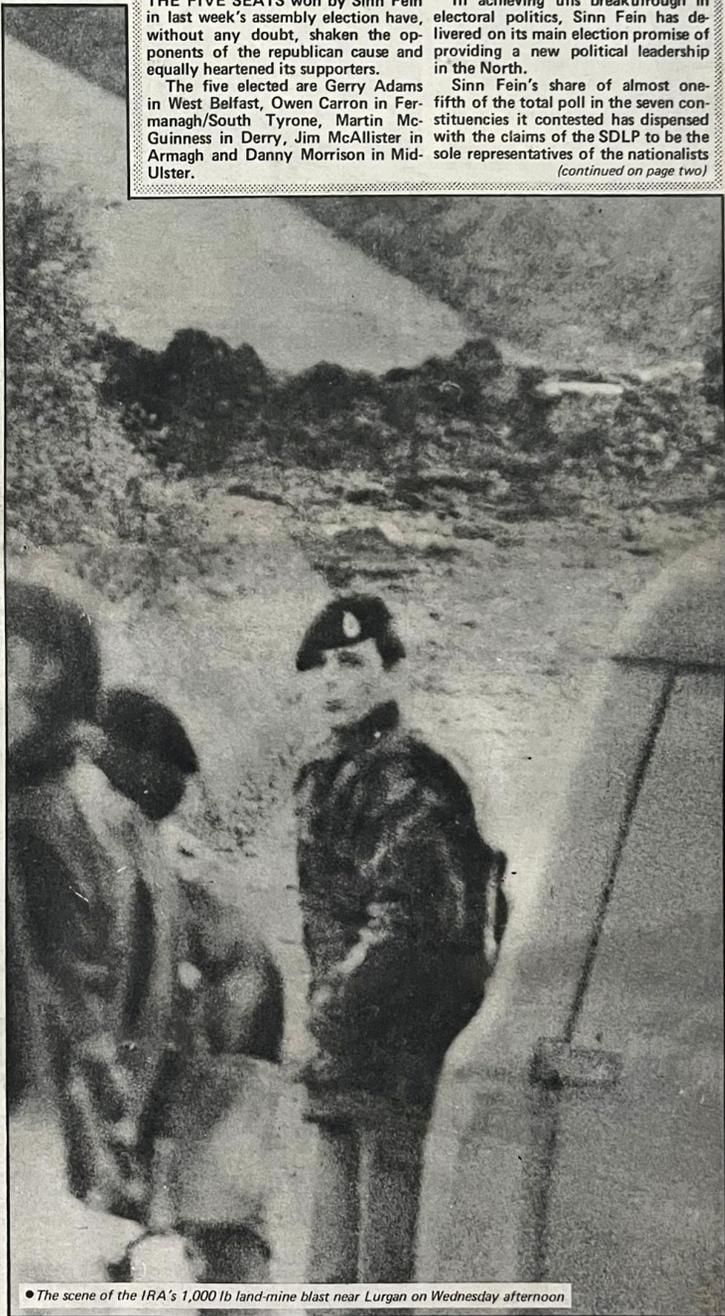
THE FIVE SEATS won by Sinn Féin in last week's assembly election have, without any doubt, shaken the opponents of the republican cause and equally heartened its supporters.

The five elected are Gerry Adams in West Belfast, Owen Carron in Fermanagh/South Tyrone, Martin McGuinness in Derry, Jim McAllister in Armagh and Danny Morrison in Mid-Ulster.

In achieving this breakthrough in electoral politics, Sinn Féin has delivered on its main election promise of providing a new political leadership in the North.

Sinn Féin's share of almost one-fifth of the total poll in the seven constituencies it contested has dispensed with the claims of the SDLP to be the sole representatives of the nationalists

(continued on page two)



•The scene of the IRA's 1,000 lb land-mine blast near Lurgan on Wednesday afternoon

**Sinn Féin Ard Fheis, Mansion House, Dublin
Saturday 30th - Sunday 31st October**

VOTE SHAKER

(continued from front page)

of the North. And in terms which cannot be disputed by those who have so often challenged the Republican Movement to a contest at the ballot boxes.

UNPALATABLE

Ignore it as they may try to do, these results are as unpalatable and resolve-sapping for the British occupiers and their loyalist allies as the inexorable military onslaughts of the IRA.

In the wake of the election successes then, Sinn Fein is faced with the task of continuing to lead the militant campaign to smash the new Stormont and, at the same time, to build on the politicisation of the struggle so far achieved.

The Sinn Fein ard fheis this weekend will be a timely reminder that this politicisation can afford to recognise no boundaries and must urgently spread throughout all thirty-two counties of Ireland.

On its two declared fronts, the Republican Movement is well-placed to progress to further gains.

For full story of election results, see centre pages.



• Sinn Fein's Gerry Adams outside Belfast's City Hall after the dramatic West Belfast result was announced last Thursday

BY KEVIN BURKE

AS FAR AS republican morale is concerned, the 1982 Sinn Fein ard fheis, taking place this weekend, Saturday and Sunday, October 30th and 31st, in Dublin, could not have come at a more opportune time.

In the aftermath of the significant electoral advance of last week's assembly election, and the extensive politicisation achieved in the North by Sinn Fein en route to the polls, spirits are certain to be high.

And all will be anxious, not only to celebrate the gains made so far, but to translate the progress into further advances.

The close association of the individual republicans successful at the polls, with the radical drive forward by the Republican Movement in recent years is certain too to have its own effect.

RESOLUTIONS

A total of 145 resolutions face the delegates for consideration this year. And they show an encouraging growth in the turn away from internal concentration to the more useful job of getting to grips with national, economic and social problems.

First of all, there are a number of resolutions to clear up the existing anomaly, created at the last ard fheis, whereby Sinn Fein policy excludes federalism in a united Ireland, yet its constitution contains the word 'federal' in the type of Ireland aimed at.

The Sinn Fein ard comhairle is proposing the required constitutional amendment, which, given a two-thirds majority, will tidy this up. And, in another resolution, the ard comhairle offers a new policy on governmental structures as an alternative to federalism, which details at some length a four-level structure of government aimed at maximum decentralisation.

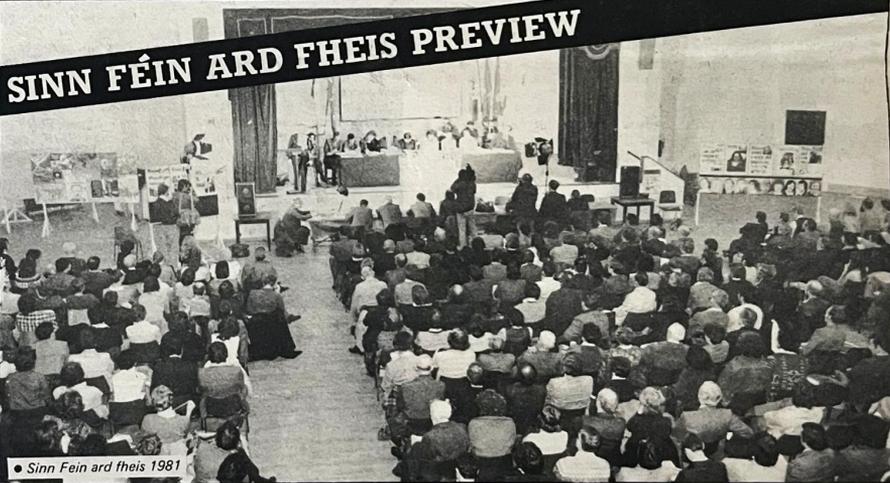
"Republicans propose structures," the document says, "by which government will be increasingly exercised by committees for the overall needs of each community, its individual families and persons."

Sinn Fein cumainn have had the seven-page policy document for some weeks now in order to fully study it, so debate should be well-informed.

Two resolutions oppose this policy, however, although one of them, perhaps through ill-judged wording, seeks 'power-sharing in a new Ireland', a concept I had thought confined to the manoeuvrings of Prior, the SDLP and the Alliance Party in the confines of the six-county state.

Strangely, both the pro-federal resolutions come from Munster proposers. But the impression that Munster wants to contain the six counties in a distant federal Ulster, is a rather confusing one, given the proven willingness of republicans in the Southern counties to throw themselves unselfishly into the national struggle.

A heavy two-day workload



• Sinn Fein ard fheis 1981

Following the redefined 'Social and Economic Dimensions' policy adopted at the 1979 ard fheis, and amended slightly since then; the women's policy adopted in 1980; and the specific trade union policy agreed last year; the Sinn Fein ard fheis this time will be considering a new policy document on agriculture.

DRAFT VERSION

Again, a draft version of this has been circulated already and it expands somewhat the general principles already part of overall Sinn Fein, its main strategy being the protection and realistic encouragement of small farmers towards the highest possible return from the use of the land.

In other economic areas there is, not surprisingly, a concentration on unemployment, with calls for action in mobilising the unemployed, and suggestions of campaigns on a shorter working week and for 'one man, one job'. (An amendment to 'one person' would seem to be required, and a resolution, elsewhere, from Kildare Sinn Fein, makes this very point.)

On a topical, and controversial note, also, there is a call for Sinn Fein to support the building of Knock Airport 'so as to boost the economy of the farming com-

munity in that region."

Also of topical interest are two resolutions dealing with the proposed abortion amendment to the Free State's constitution. Both suggest opposition to the amendment currently being proposed.

On republican prisoners, the concern of Sinn Fein members for those in English jails is reflected in the few resolutions on the list. The recession of the H-Block/Armagh campaign is also reflected.

On the electoral front, the EEC elections now demand attention, whilst a resolution from Comhairle Atha Cliath reflects some concern at the time of the Free State general election earlier this year and states:

"That all candidates in national and local elections and all campaign material be unambivalent in support of the armed struggle."

The conduct of the recent assembly election campaign by Sinn Fein showed, in no uncertain terms, how that should be done.

EXTENSION

In the area of culture there are demands for the extension of the use of Irish and opposition to 'pop' pirate radio stations. Youth once again calls for more emphasis

and attention.

The Foreign Affairs resolutions, not surprisingly, contain many which offer solidarity to the Palestinians. There is one calling for support for Polish 'Solidarity', another wants it made clear that the Republican Movement has no association with the Red Brigades and such, and another condemns American nuclear war plans.

An ard comhairle resolution seeks the endorsement of the 'Algiers Declaration', a motion which will need some further explanation.

Internally there are still plenty of resolutions, including some suggestions for *An Phoblacht/Republican News*.

On Sinn Fein organisation there are several resolutions reflecting dissatisfaction with the provincial structures and the ard comhairle seeks a mandate to carry out a major review of organisational structure and meanwhile asks for the power to replace the comhairle cuigi with regional executives where it deems necessary.

In all, the ard fheis this weekend is faced with a heavy workload for its two days in session. The mature level of debate and application shown by delegates in recent years should, however, if repeated, prove well able to cope with it.

CATHOLIC BATTERED TO DEATH BY LOYALIST KILLERS

Sectarian pretext seized

FOLLOWING the IRA abduction of a UDR sergeant in South Armagh last week, loyalist paramilitary gangs kidnapped and killed a Catholic man in Belfast and shot dead a Sinn Fein election worker in Armagh city.

Though loyalists have rarely needed excuses in the past for their ongoing sectarian assassination campaign they used the IRA abduction of a British army sergeant as a pretext for kidnapping West Belfast man Joseph Donegan.

The IRA operation took place outside Markethill on Friday, October 22nd, when the UDR man, Sergeant Thomas Cochrane, was disabled as he made his way to work on a motorcycle. When captured he had in his possession a .38 revolver. The IRA then took the UDR man away for questioning "about serious crimes against the nationalist people" and issued a statement claiming responsibility for his abduction. The British army, RUC and UDR were mobilised and moved into the area in strength searching for the active service unit.

Later that night, 48-year-old Joseph Donegan from Britton's Parade in the Whitecock district was kidnapped outside a club in the Lower Falls. Mr Donegan had been in the Pound Loney Social Club where he had had a few drinks and been playing snooker. A number of men jumped on him and trailed him into a Cortina which then sped off.

Shortly afterwards, a caller claiming to represent the UVF said that Mr Donegan would be held as hostage against the safe return of Sergeant Cochrane.

INSTRUCTION

It has now been confirmed that at this stage the IRA's GHQ staff attempted to send an instruction to the South Armagh Battalion ordering the UDR man's release. The courier, however, could not get into the area because of the heavy presence of crown forces on the Northern side of the border and Free State forces in the Monaghan and Louth area.

It is also clear from the statement subsequently issued by the IRA in South Armagh that, un-



● JOSEPH DONEGAN — tortured

aware of this instruction from their superiors, they executed the UDR sergeant after questioning him.

Enemies and critics of republicans then launched a series of attacks on the newly-elected Sinn Fein representatives and, in particular, on the successful West Belfast candidate and vice-president of Sinn Fein, Gerry Adams.

Mairead Corrigan of the discredited Peace People; Marie McMahon, the defeated Workers' Party candidate; and Joe Hendron, the humiliated SDLP elected representative; led the personal attacks on Adams saying that he could get the UDR man released.

McMahon's offer to mediate with the UVF was seen as particularly cynical because of the Workers' Party close ties with loyalist paramilitaries. Indeed, one sickening aspect during the election counts was to see Workers' Party candidates arm-in-arm with loy-

alists and especially DUP candidates. The UVF announced that they would kill Mr Donegan if Sergeant Cochrane was not released before midnight on Sunday.

MEDIATORS

Over the weekend, Sinn Fein mediators were involved in attempting to discover the fate of the UDR soldier and it is probable that locally the IRA in South Armagh withheld announcing his death hoping to increase the chances of Mr Donegan's survival.

On Sunday evening, Gerry Adams issued a statement which said:

"Since Friday evening Sinn Fein have attempted to get clarification on the condition of UDR Sergeant Cochrane and of the IRA's intentions towards him.

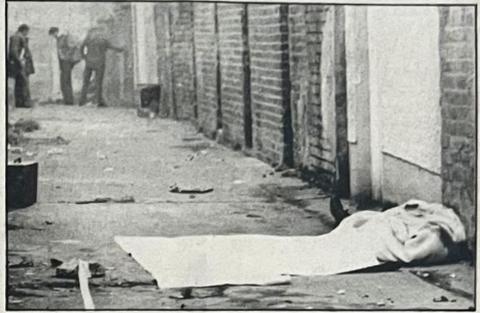
"We must report that we have been unable to get any information on Sergeant Cochrane. Our failure to get clarification arises directly from the heavy presence of British army and RUC in the area and the equally heavy Free State army, garda and Task Force presence.

"As soon as we get clarification of the IRA's intentions or the fate of Sergeant Cochrane, we will urge the IRA to issue a public statement.

"While we sympathise with the Cochrane family, we must point out that Sergeant Cochrane is a serving British army officer who is well aware of the risks.

"Joe Donegan, however, is an innocent non-combatant, kidnapped by loyalists simply because he is a Catholic."

It was on the nine o'clock news on Monday morning that the discovery of a man's body was made in an entry off the Shankill Road. As expected, it was that of father-of-seven, Joseph Donegan, and he had been badly mutilated, beaten



● Joseph Donegan's body lies in a Shankill Road entry where his sadistic killers dumped him; (below) the funeral cortege on the Falls Road on Wednesday



about the head and body.

ACTIVIST

A few hours later, former internee and Sinn Fein activist, Peter Corrigan, was shot dead in Armagh city as he went to 'sign-on' at the labour exchange. His son and brother who were with him narrowly escaped death. The 'Protestant Action Force', a cover-name for the UVF, claimed responsibility for the assassination.

Then, in the early hours of Tuesday morning, the IRA's 1st Battalion in South Armagh issued a statement saying that Sergeant Cochrane had been executed before an instruction from their GHQ arrived ordering his release. The

delay was attributed to the heavy British army, RUC and garda presence along the border.

It is believed that Sergeant Cochrane was killed on Saturday. At the Donegan home in West Belfast there was a constant stream of mourners visiting the family and offering their condolences. On Tuesday morning, Sinn Fein elected representatives Owen Carron, Danny Morrison and Gerry Adams called and offered their sympathy and spoke to members of the family.

On Wednesday, Mr Donegan, an innocent victim of loyalist sectarianism, was laid to rest in the City Cemetery, close to his Britton's Parade home.

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

SHORTLY AFTER the discovery of the badly mutilated body of Whitecock man Joseph Donegan lying in an entry off Belfast's Shankill Road on Monday October 25th, loyalist assassins struck again in Armagh city as 47-year-old Peter Corrigan — who had been a prominent Sinn Fein election worker — was gunned down as he walked from his home in the nationalist Drumbrada estate to the local labour exchange.

Mr Corrigan, the father of eleven children, was well-known by both Brits and RUC for his republican sympathies, for which in the past he had been deprived of his liberty on two occasions.

Interned in the initial August 1971 swoops, Peter spent two years, under extremely harsh conditions, on the prison ship Maidstone and was not released until 1973. However, he enjoyed only a very brief period of freedom being re-interred shortly afterwards for a further year.

During both hunger-strike periods he gave abundantly of his time and energy in the H-Block/Armagh committee, organising pickets, protests and demonstrations. No later than last week, and right up to polling day last Wednesday, Peter Corrigan played a prominent role in the successful election of, Sinn

Election worker slain



● Martin Corrigan stands at the spot where his father Peter (inset) was murdered last Monday

Fein candidate Jim McAllister. During the campaign, he had been constantly harassed by both Brits and RUC, being stopped on numerous occasions, while going about his election work.

Monday morning, October 25th, was, for Peter Corrigan and his 17-year-old son Martin, 'signing-on' day, their fortnightly ritual of joining the countless others, in the

depressing line of unemployment. It was a routine, which, in the aftermath of his murder, did not go unnoticed by his loyalist assassins.

Hijacking a red Toyota car in Belfast's Protestant West Circular Road area early that morning, members of the so-called 'Protestant Action Force' who later claimed responsibility for the mur-

der, travelled to Armagh city, conveniently avoiding detection in their stolen car from the various UDR checkpoints which had been drafted into the area to search for UDR Sergeant Thomas Cochrane.

Shortly after 11 am, Peter Corrigan, his brother Frank and son Martin, left their home and walked along the Loughgall Road; Peter was to the inside, Frank in

the middle and Martin nearest the road. They reached the Bainswear factory. Martin recalls what happened:

"We were just walking along talking. The next minute we knew, there were a few shots fired from a car which pulled up near us. My father fell to the ground, he had been hit in the side of the head and he fell forward bleeding. The gunman was wearing a green duffle-coat, he leaned out of the car window pointing the sub-machine gun. It had a silencer on it.

"Me and Frank ran for our lives over to the other side of the road out of his target, I knew there was nothing we could do for my father. We would have been shot too if we hadn't ran out of the gunman's way. They were out for my father and they knew where they would find him."

Peter Corrigan died instantly from his wounds. Minutes later his assassins had disappeared, abandoning their car near the main Armagh/Moy road.

In a statement issued shortly after the shooting, Jim McAllister pointed out:

"In recent weeks Peter Corrigan was, on a daily basis, being stopped, questioned and harassed. His movements were being constantly monitored. Under these circumstances it appears to me to be more than coincidental that those who murdered him knew his movements so precisely, and that there was no Brit/RUC activity in the area."

Death on the streets

IN A REPORT published on Wednesday this week, October 27th, by the British National Council for Civil Liberties (NCCL), leading barrister Lord Tony Gifford QC, condemns the shooting of 15-year-old Paul Whitters in Derry in April 1981 as "an act of murder for which I can see no possible defence."

Entitled 'Death on the Streets of Derry', the report details an investigation carried out by Gifford, on behalf of NCCL, into three deaths in Derry during 1981: that of Paul Whitters, shot dead by a plastic bullet fired by an RUC man on April 15th; and those of Gary English, aged 19, and James Brown, aged 18, who were run over and killed by a landrover driven by a lance-corporal of the Royal Anglian Regiment on Easter Sunday, April 19th.

No inquest has been held into Paul Whitters' death and no member of the RUC has been prosecuted.

AIMED

After interviewing eye-witnesses, Gifford concludes:

"First, the police could easily have arrested Paul, who was on his own with help a long way off. Secondly, no shout or warning was given. Thirdly, the police made no attempt to size up the situation, but shot immediately. Fourthly, the shot was head high and, it would seem, aimed. Fifthly, the range was very close, at the most ten yards.

"The officers would have been aware that the activity outside (the bakery in which they were stationed) was stone-throwing. There was nothing in Paul's hand which could be mistaken for a gun.

"Firing in those circumstances,



● LORD TONY GIFFORD QC "double standards of justice... a mockery" with a weapon which is known to be highly lethal at that range, was an act of murder for which I can see no possible defence."

CRITICISMS

In his investigation of the deaths of James Brown and Gary English, Lord Gifford was able to draw on the evidence given in the trial of the British soldiers in the vehicle, Buzzard and Smith.

Both were acquitted at a mock trial in Belfast Crown Court in January 1982, and Gifford concludes that there are serious crit-



icisms to be made of the conduct of the prosecution.

Firstly, he says that the evidence available to the prosecution justified bringing charges of murder and manslaughter against the driver of the landrover and not merely the charge of causing death by dangerous driving, which was in fact brought.

Furthermore, the leading barrister for the prosecution left the case at the beginning of the defence evidence, was not available to cross-examine the defence witnesses and indeed never returned to the trial.

"The impression left with the relatives of the dead youths, and

perhaps with the jury as well, was that the prosecution had lost interest in the case," says Gifford.

He also criticises the judge's summing-up, in which, says Gifford, "there was no attempt to point out the strengths of the prosecution case," and in which misleading directions were given to the jury about the law on reckless driving.

Gifford concludes that:

"The real sense of bitterness which persists stems from the feeling that the authorities have compounded their own crime. One arm of authority causes death on the streets. Another arm of authority treats it as a traffic offence and even then shows none of the

zeal which is shown towards 'normal' criminals.

"Such double standards of justice make a mockery of the values which the security forces are supposed to secure."

Patricia Hewitt, general secretary of the NCCL, said on Wednesday that the Council would be circulating Lord Gifford's report widely to British MPs as well as to Euro-MPs, who recently condemned the use of plastic bullets in the North.

■ 'Death on the Streets of Derry', by Lord Tony Gifford, is available from NCCL, 21 Tabard Street, London SE1. Price 75p (plus 20p postage).

SINN FEIN COUNCILLOR JAILED IN RTE BAN LICENCE PROTEST

Release Eddie O'Doherty!

A SINN FEIN councillor from Carrick-on-Suir, County Tipperary, 52-year-old Eddie O'Doherty, is serving a two-month prison sentence in Mountjoy Jail for refusing to purchase a television licence in protest against Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act, which bans republicans from RTE, and because of the lack of Irish language programmes.

O'Doherty, who is also branch secretary of the ATGWU in Carrick-on-Suir, served a shorter prison sentence earlier this year when he refused to pay a £50 fine imposed for a similar refusal to buy a licence.

In June of this year, O'Doherty appeared in court again and this time the fine was doubled, as was the option - a two-month prison sentence. He has made it clear that he will not pay the fine, nor does he want any friends to pay it on his behalf.

He began his two-month sentence on Thursday of last week, October 21st.

On Wednesday morning of this week Eddie O'Doherty was visited by Sinn Fein's Director of Publicity, Danny Morrison, who was elected in Mid-Ulster in the assembly elections. Afterwards Morrison said:

"It is disgraceful that a man has to go to jail to highlight injustice and censorship. It is also disgraceful that Eddie O'Doherty's fellow councillors and his trade union should ignore his plight.

"Eddie O'Doherty should be released immediately and Section 31 should be abolished. It is blatantly unfair that British politicians and loyalist spokespersons can appear on RTE television and radio, while Sinn Fein, which

represents a sizeable section of nationalist opinion, is banned."

Danny Morrison also complained that the prison authorities would not allow a copy of *The Irish Times* and *The Irish Press* into the jail, nor a novel which he had brought along for the prisoner.

RTE ban 'farcical' - O Bradaigh

COMMENTING on the Section 31 ban on Sinn Fein spokespersons appearing on RTE, in the wake of the party's success in last week's assembly elections, Sinn Fein president Ruairi O Bradaigh said:

"The continuing political censorship by RTE of Sinn Fein spokespersons and elected representatives has now reached farcical proportions, with the denial of air-time to the five successful Sinn Fein candidates in the six-county elections.

"The attitude of Mr Haughey in saying on television on Thursday night that 'elected representatives were entitled to normal accessibility to radio and television' and then banning the newly-elected Sinn Fein candidates was nothing short of hypocritical.



● Members of Dublin Sinn Fein mounted a picket on Mountjoy Jail on Wednesday evening to demand Eddie O'Doherty's release

the right to put their views before the public. An even more important point is that the people are entitled to know the views and attitudes of a political organisation with elected representatives on both sides of the border.

"The contention that Sinn Fein, the oldest national political party in Ireland, should register at Leinster House in order to gain air-time is groundless. The SDLP and the unionist parties are not registered there, yet they have the freedom of RTE air-waves.

"The National H-Block/Armagh Committee did not register last year, yet it obtained broadcasting time in the June general election.

"Anyhow the five newly-elected representatives have been chosen in Irish constituencies outside the jurisdiction of Leinster House.

"In contrast to RTE, the BBC and UTV accept the right of Sinn Fein to express its political viewpoint to the public. It is time this question of selective political censorship was faced up to fully and finally."



● Eddie O'Doherty

"Even a long-time and bitter opponent of Sinn Fein, Mr Gerry Fitt MP, could see that the Sinn Fein representatives should have

FREE STATE LABOUR PARTY IN DISARRAY

BY KEVIN BURKE

WITH the latest opinion polls this week showing, for the first time in the history of the Free State, Fine Gael neck and neck with Fianna Fail, the prospect of the Labour Party disappearing into oblivion at an early election becomes a real possibility.

The anti-Fianna Fail vote, which has found Labour, through its participation in right-wing coalition, indistinguishable from Fine Gael, has solidified behind the bigger party. Fine Gael therefore looks increasingly likely to swallow its latest coalition partner, just as it did previous ones like Clann na Poblachta. The Workers' Party meanwhile awaits with delight any crumbs which might fall its way.

And last weekend's Labour Party conference in Galway has made this even more likely.

The conference was faced with making a decision on whether to declare openly that it was direct itself towards what its left-wing calls 'an independent socialist policy', or pass the coalition decision into the hands of its parliamentary party and administrative council, which would, in other words, mean a coalition would be grabbed for it if it was on at all.

As things turned out the whole thing was fudged and a compromise emerged that Labour will fight any forthcoming election 'independently' and decide on coalition afterwards.

The figures defeating the straightforward anti-coalition position are such that the 'compromise' will almost certainly also mean a blind grab for seats in a coalition cabinet, as at the Gaitey conference of last year, which preceded the short-lived 1981 Coalition government.

SHAKEN

The position of the Labour Party leader,



● Michael O'Leary appears to be contemplating a glum future at last weekend's Labour Party conference

Michael O'Leary, has been particularly shaken by the party's compromise decision. He had thrown all his weight behind the pro-coalition resolution but had to witness the galling sight of his predecessor as leader, Frank Cluskey, successfully moving the compromise.

O'Leary, always prone to depression, has since sunk into silent gloom, perhaps contemplating his 33% satisfaction rate in the leadership opinion poll.

The Labour Party leader failed to give the traditional party conference interview on RTE's 'This Week' luncheon news programme on Sunday, and has remained virtually incommu-

nicado since.

His leadership over his now widely and openly split party seems only to survive because of the absence of any alternative leader who would not split the party even further. The possibility of him giving up the leadership voluntarily and retiring from politics is now thought to be likelier than ever before.

O'Leary's situation in his Dublin Central constituency is to say the least precarious, thanks to the presence of Tony Gregory, and the slightest swing to Fine Gael would give O'Leary's declining popularity in that area the final push.

It could well be he will decide to go gracefully beforehand.

SHAMBLES

Meanwhile, the Labour Party remains in total shambles with its young left-wing element increasingly frustrated. Last weekend at the pointlessness of hours of speeches on 'socialist' policies which are proposed to be waved before an unbelieving electorate as a prelude to throwing them aside and accepting Fine Gael's 'capitalist' ones.

The Labour Party, it would seem, is a spent force.

FIANNA FAIL OFFERS PIE-IN-THE SKY IN EXCHANGE FOR REAL HARDSHIPS

AFTER a softening-up process which has been going on throughout the summer months, the Fianna Fail economic plan surprised few people in the twenty-six counties when it was finally revealed on Thursday of last week, October 21st.

It is, nevertheless, a most vicious outline of promised economic severity over the next four years. And even if the Fianna Fail government, debilitated by the death of Bill Loughane and the collapse of Jim Gibbons, fails to drag along Tony Gregory and the Workers' Party, and therefore collapses, then the 'alternative' Fine Gael coalition has just such a plan to continue the onslaught.

The Fianna Fail economic plan, entitled 'The Way Forward', sets out to achieve what has so far been a target only of Fine Gael — to eliminate the current budget deficit of nearly £1,000 million over the next four years and thus achieve 'financial rectitude'.

It aims to do so by crippling further the underprivileged and unemployed and slashing the living standards of the hard-pressed PAYE worker.

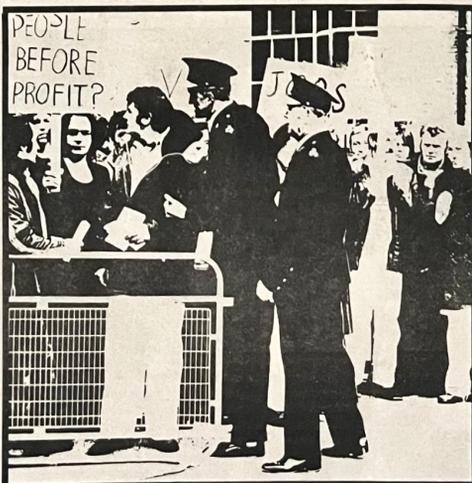
UNEMPLOYMENT

Central to this strategy is to allow unemployment to rise up to and over the 200,000 mark in the next two years, egged on by the deliberate reduction of 4,000 jobs in the civil service.

With this spectre threatening those still in work, it is hoped to restrict pay rises to levels of around 5%, way below the predicted in-

PLANNING DISASTER

BY DAMIEN O'ROURKE



flation rates, and again led by severe restrictions in public service pay thus achieving a reduction in inflation such as Margaret Thatcher has achieved by means of Britain's

three million unemployed. And for the unemployed, the plan charts their contribution to mopping up the mess of recession in the capitalists' economy in the

form of limitations in unemployment benefit, reductions in pay-related benefits and cuts in disability benefits.

To add to the misery, public spending, particularly in the areas of health and education, is to continue to be savagely cut back throughout the four-year plan. And capital spending by the state — a traditional job-creation instrument — is also to be drastically reduced.

UNBELIEVABLE

And after all these depressing threats come some unbelievable promises.

With a series of projected growth rates and export figures, plucked out of thin air, and certainly never before approached let alone achieved, Free State premier Charles Haughey makes some unbelievable claims for good times at the end of the all too believable years of hardship.

And given the honour of achieving this economic miracle is, of course, private enterprise, which, on its way to glory, will, we are asked to believe, create 92,000 new jobs.

The fact that the private sector has been cosseted with tax concessions, grant-aids and subsidies for decades and has failed miserably, even in the best times, to work any wonders, is casually overlooked.

The fact also that the same private sector has syphoned off its profits in the good days, and quickly withdrawn its capital in the bad days, is also supposed to be overlooked.

The economic plan of Charles Haughey is a far distant cry from the real planning of a socialist economy designed to identify the targets of equal benefit for all. It is, on the contrary, a mere reconstruction programme for the capitalist economy to be paid for, as ever, by those who will benefit least from its supposed successes.

Lights out

THE LIGHTS in many Dublin streets are beginning to go out and stay out as the Dublin Corporation electrical workers' strike enters its sixth week.

Two hundred general workers in the IMETU are on official strike because they are refusing to accept a Corpa' plan to provide electrician foremen with their own cars in which to drive from job to job. Until now the foremen have travelled in vans driven by general workers who also take supplies to the sites.

The general workers have been assured that there will be no loss of jobs, but as the cars are phased in, fewer general workers will have the chance to become drivers with the accompanying £8 to £9 per week differential in wages.

So far two Datsun Cherries are sitting in the Marrowbone Lane depot and another fifteen are on the way.

In addition to the dispute between the Corporation and the lighting workers, there is some inter-union anger from the IMETU directed against the ETU, to which the foremen belong, because of their refusal to discuss, with the IMETU, the phasing in of the new car.

Tragic death

THE 19-month-old grandson of Leitrim republican John Joe McGill has died tragically after an electrocution accident at his home in Ballinamore.

Little Brendan Donnelly, only child of Martin and Aine Donnelly, was playing near an electric fire on Saturday morning, October 23rd, and received fatal shocks.

The Republican Movement offers their most heartfelt condolences to the Donnelly family circle.

Bulk orders

ANYONE wishing to purchase bulk orders of H-Block badges or posters, republican posters, 'The Writings of Bobby Sands', 'The Diary of Bobby Sands', 'Prison Poems by Bobby Sands', etc., should contact John Connolly, 2a Monagh Crescent, Turf Lodge, Belfast, or telephone Belfast 620768.



● GERRY ADAMS
West Belfast



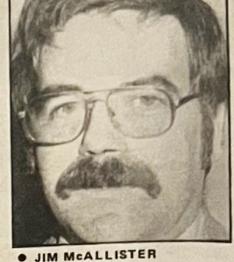
● OWEN CARRON
Fermanagh/South Tyrone



● MARTIN MCGUINNESS
Derry



● DANNY MORRISON
Mid-Ulster



● JIM McALLISTER
Armagh

Sinn Féin breakthrough

IN WHAT came as a sensational election result, for all but confident republican election workers and candidates, Sinn Féin achieved its promised electoral breakthrough in the six-county assembly elections last week, taking over 10% of the total votes and winning five seats.

In fact, the 64,191 first preference votes won amount to 17% of the votes cast in the seven constituencies which Sinn Féin contested. And seats were won in five of those seven areas.

WEST BELFAST

The first result announced last Thursday afternoon, October 21st, signalled clearly the main story of the election battle, with Gerry Adams topping the poll in West Belfast and being elected on the first count with 9,740 votes, almost 3,000 over the quota. His vote alone exceeded the total votes gained by the three SDLP candidates by well over 1,000.

Adams' running mate, Alex Maskey, gathered a further 627 votes, giving Sinn Féin a 30% share of the total vote in the constituency. Although Maskey received the overwhelming proportion of Adams' transfers, he eventually missed a second seat by a mere 900 votes.

Local election workers pointed to the still significant number of republican voters still unregistered and to those who boycotted the election out of habit only to regret it later when they witnessed the devastating effect of the Sinn Féin victories.

FERMANAGH/SOUTH TYRONE

Owen Carron, already the Westminster MP for the area, shot to the head of the poll in Fermanagh/South Tyrone with a staggering 14,025 votes, humiliating the

SDLP's Austin Currie who failed to get half that figure and had to wait for many long counts before getting a seat.

The Sinn Féin proportion of the vote here was 28%. The second Sinn Féin candidate, Francie Molloy, achieved 2,700 first preferences of his own and after picking up most of Carron's first preferences hung on until the final count, eventually missing the second seat by a frustrating 500 votes.

DERRY

And also in on the first count was Martin McGuinness in Derry, where Sinn Féin had been given beforehand an outside chance of scraping the third nationalist seat from the SDLP in the party leader John Hume's home territory.

The imprisoned Cathal Crumley brought another 556 first preferences to make a Sinn Féin total of 8,763 and almost 14% of the total poll.

MID-ULSTER

In the Mid-Ulster constituency, Sinn Féin achieved 20.5% of the first preferences and achieved its best split of the election — the essence of working the PR system to advantage — with Danny Morrison getting 6,927 votes on the first count and Benedict McElwee pulling in another 5,763.

Unfortunately again, this only produced the one seat with both Sinn Féin candidates the only survivors at the last count and Morrison deemed elected.

ARMAGH

The Armagh constituency produced the fifth Sinn Féin seat with the South Armagh candidate Jim McAllister comfortably winning a seat having taken 5,182 first preference votes and J. B. O'Hagan taking a further 3,042 in the northern end.

Their combined total amounted to over

13% of the poll.

NORTH BELFAST

The most frustrating near-miss of the election for Sinn Féin came in North Belfast where, in a constituency with a loyalist majority, Joe Austin headed the nationalist candidates in first preferences with 4,029 votes, almost as much as the combined total of the SDLP's two candidates.

But, as the counts inexorably wore on, the SDLP's Pascal O'Hare eventually picked up enough transfers to pass Austin on the twelfth count (the transfers of Workers' Party candidate Seamus Lynch) and eventually be deemed elected on the fourteenth count with Paul Maguire of Alliance.

At this final stage, Austin was a mere 184 votes behind Maguire.

SOUTH DOWN

In the final constituency where Sinn Féin had a candidate, South Down, Cyril Toman collected a respectable 3,393 first preference votes, but was never in contention for a seat.

ACHIEVEMENT

For Sinn Féin, in its first electoral intervention in recent years, the results amounted to a considerable achievement. However, it is clear that inexperience in the field, particularly in gauging the best tactics to maximise gains from the proportional representation system, cost the party dear.

Sinn Féin with its 10.2% of the total poll, took only 6.4% of the assembly seats, having three very near misses.

In contrast, the Alliance Party with only 9.3% of the total, gained twice as many seats as Sinn Féin.

In spite of this, the force of the Sinn Féin presence has been clearly illustrated to friend and foe alike.



ASSEMBLY ELECTION

CANDIDATES	STAG
ADAMS G	
BROWNE G	
DICKSON W	
HENNING W	
HENDERSON J	
MASKEY A	
MANLY J	
MURPHY W	
WILSON M	
WATSON T	
WATSON T	

● A stoical Joe Austin after coming so close to a seat in North Belfast



● Incensed loyalists, amongst them John McMichael spokesperson for the paramilitary UDA (left), hurl abuse and threats following the Sinn Féin poll-topping victory in West Belfast

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● Journalists and enthusiastic supporters follow successful candidate Gerry Adams after Thursday's election count

An electoral shock wave

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

ONE WEEK after the North's assembly elections, as the shock waves of Sinn Fein's electoral successes still reverberate around the political drawing-rooms of London, Belfast and Dublin, the old pattern is emerging once again of another British failure to stabilise the six counties.

Only in the politically frozen landscape of the six counties could a 78-seat assembly be wrecked by the election of five abstentionist republicans.

While the lessons of these elections in terms of electoral tactics must be carefully studied, it is equally important that republicans exploit election results in order to achieve the electoral intervention's primary objective — the building of an organised campaign against the new Stormont.

In a statement released on Wednesday, October 27th, Sinn Fein's five elected representatives, Owen Carron, Gerry Adams, Jim McAllister, Martin McGuinness and Danny Morrison declared:

"It is obvious from the comments by direct-ruler Jim Prior that he fully intends to work the assembly despite its rejection by the nationalist community.

"Sinn Fein believes that this new Stormont threatens the political well-being of the Irish people and Sinn Fein cordially calls on all anti-Unionist groups to unite against this latest foreign imposition.

"To this end, Sinn Fein is issuing an invitation to all nationalist political parties, independents and anti-imperialist groups for an exploratory meeting to discuss how best to defend nationalist interests, vocally and in a street-protest campaign. It is hoped that the meeting, which will be held in private, would take place before the SDLP meets Jim

Prior next week but this now seems impossible.

"Formal invitations and details of venue and date will be issued shortly to the interested parties."

STATE OF PARTIES

On Saturday, October 23rd, the final state of the parties was as follows: Official Unionists 26 seats, DUP 21 seats, SDLP 14 seats, Alliance 10 seats, Sinn Fein 5 seats and independent Unionists 2.

The overall results show the Official Unionists still in the lead in the unionist camp, probably because of the cautious and critical attitude they displayed towards Prior's proposed assembly. Although the gap is narrowing between them and Paisley's DUP, nevertheless the DUP has been unable to repeat last year's triumph in the local elections when they actually polled a fraction more than the Official Unionists.

The Alliance Party is on a downward trend, although it has managed 0.5% more than in last year's local elections.

But to most politicians and observers the sensation of the election was the success of Sinn Fein, especially as it came after a long and vicious campaign of intimidation and demoralisation waged on Sinn Fein election

workers by the Brits, the RUC and the media.

MAJOR FORCE

10.2% of the first preference votes changed Sinn Fein in a matter of days from a "tiny minority" with "no mandate" (The Irish Times) to "a major force in terms of constitutional politics" (The Guardian).

Indeed, there were echoes of last year's Fermanagh/South Tyrone by-election as one watched the somersaulting and the gnashing of teeth of politicians and journalists attempting to explain away the new phenomenon.

The Irish Times patronisingly asked: "What is Sinn Fein going to do with its success? How will it lead those who gave so liberally of their vote?" And it blamed that success on Margaret Thatcher, plastic bullets and the H-Blocks, of course, but also on the SDLP's 'abdication', meaning its abstentionist tactics.

The Irish Independent's leader, anger seething through, also reproached the SDLP for its abstentionism, and of the 'unexpected' Sinn Fein result. It said: "They meant nothing in real terms," and only showed how "individuals with high public profiles can attract electoral support."

The Irish News, after several weeks of intense campaigning on behalf of the SDLP, praised them for maintaining their support and

laid the entire 'blame' for Sinn Fein's success at the door of the British government.

The Irish Press frankly admitted its "shock and horror" at the result but nevertheless presented Sinn Fein's vote as positive support for "a nationalist type of solution once and for all to the Northern agony." The Irish Press also mentioned the challenge posed by Sinn Fein's success to the ludicrous Section 31 of the Free State's Broadcasting Act without, however, quoting Danny Morrison's statement of Thursday, October 21st, which said:

"We demand that RTE be instructed to cease censoring the republican voice of the North and presenting a distorted image of Sinn Fein's support."

SCREAMING

More interestingly, the various parties found themselves forced to react promptly to the Sinn Fein result under the gaze of the world media as, early on Thursday afternoon, the news came in from Belfast's City Hall that Gerry Adams had topped the poll in West Belfast. While DUP supporters were screaming abuse at Sinn Fein election workers present at the count, Jim Molyneux, of the Official Unionists, described the fact that this result would have to be taken into account by the British government as "horrible".

John Hume of the SDLP adopted his famous 'I-told-you-so' stance and blamed it all on James Prior. And Ian Paisley, for the benefit of the media, indulged in a little bit of fire and brimstone preaching about the "rise

of militant Sinn Feinism." As for Joe Hendron, the SDLP's main candidate in West Belfast, he explained Gerry Adams' success in terms of the young vote of the 18 to 25 age group "who used Sinn Fein to register a vote against the harassment they have suffered from the security forces (sic) over the past ten years."

Seamus Lynch, of the Workers' Party, appeared later on the TV screen with tear-filled eyes and trembling chin to complain that Sinn Fein had played the sectarian card. He obviously knew what he was talking about if one was to judge by the friendly chat his party members had with UDA colleagues throughout the count at the City Hall that afternoon.

SET-BACK

Jim Prior, naturally enough, was slow to react. Late on Friday, he simply stated that the assembly would go ahead regardless of the 'set-back' constituted by the result. There was little else he could have said, faced as he was with the wrath not only of the traditional Northern parties but also that of his own party backbenchers, who on Thursday and Friday bitterly accused him of having "provided the IRA with a platform which should have been denied."

On ITV's 'Weekend World' programme on Sunday, October 24th, Jim Prior further declared that "until Sinn Fein show that they are prepared to talk first of all about the assembly, and about constitutional government in Northern Ireland, I see no reason why I should see them."

Calling Sinn Fein 'a Marxist party', which had got the young unemployed vote, he stressed once more the British government's refusal to acknowledge the result of the ballot box and a forcefully voiced demand of tens of thousands of electors in the six counties for British withdrawal and self-determination for the Irish people. Prior did, however, admit that his devolution scheme was now 'stone-dead' and that his assembly would be little more than a vacuum-filling exercise.

Free State premier Charles Haughey remained very muted in his reaction, blaming what he called the North's 'political mess' on the proposed devolution scheme.

Anti-republican Leinster House deputy Jim Kemmy, a well-known proponent of the 'two-nations' theory, seized the opportunity to accuse Haughey of failure to condemn Sinn Fein more clearly before polling day.

If Kemmy's expressed views were for internal consumption they seemed, however, to be shared by the SDLP candidate in Fermanagh/South Tyrone, Austin Currie — obviously still smarting with the disgrace of having slipped into his seat after the ninth count, while Sinn Fein's Owen Carron had topped the poll with 1½ times the quota. Currie's revealing attack was aimed at the entire Irish establishment including the Free State government, the Catholic hierarchy and the professional and business classes, accusing them of having sat on the sidelines while the 'men of violence' were being elected.

Mála poist... Mála poist.

ALL letters should be addressed to: The Editor, *Republican News*, 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast, or 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 7. 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.

Assembly election

Dear Sir,
Following the results of the assembly election, it is now time for British politicians to take a totally fresh look at the problems of the North of Ireland.

They should now realise that one cannot manage the affairs of the province and ignore the Republican Movement. Nor can they continue to propagate their myth that the Provos are a small unrepresentative group of psychopaths who only rule the Catholic ghettos by the use of fear.

The election of Bobby Sands might well have been sympathy that of Owen Carron (on a H-Block ticket), a fluke, but what happened last week has smashed the media myth of a 'small Provo mafia' terrorising its community, once and for all.

Politicians, both here and in Ireland, must end their 'not talking to gunmen' stance, for no matter how reprehensible some of their acts of violence might be (and we in the Young Liberals have been consistent in our opposition to all violence in the North of Ireland), we must recognise that the Provos are now a potent political force.

And, given the record of various British governments in Ireland, who are we to point the 'holier-than-thou' finger at anyone in Ulster?

The need for improved reporting and investigative journalism in Ireland is also plain. A recent Young Liberal delegation to Ireland, in July, came back with two overall impressions: that the Provos have much more support than the media have had us be-



A Chara,

A few weeks ago, someone visiting me here in the H-Blocks was discussing the question of nationality with regards to the loyalist community and I wondered what opinions *AP/RN's* readers might have on the subject.

The visitor's arguments ran basically along these lines:

"Over the past couple of years I've found myself in a bit of a quandary insofar as I've found that the loyalist/unionist section of the populace (in the North and the South) continue to be accepted as Irish men and women and I find myself rejecting such a fanciful belief.

"I quite frankly question the logic of such a blanket acceptance, given the facts.

"Let's look at nationality. What does it entail and what should it entail?"

"As an Irish republican I wish to cherish all the children of the nation equally" despite the differences carefully fostered by an alien government to divide a minority from the majority. However, if we find a section giving allegiance to an external power (a power which occupies six of our counties by force of arms), as they have been doing down

lieve and that in other matters journalists have not done their job correctly. If they had done so the election of Bobby Sands would not have come as such a shock to the people of this country or the majority community in Ulster. Recent events have proven the correctness of observations made by inexperienced Young Liberals in a few days and how wrong the collective opinion of the British press was/is.

Finally, we would like to state our total opposition to all violence in the North of Ireland even though we do believe that the 'men of violence' must be involved in deciding the future of the province.

Janice Turner (vice-chairperson),
Pat O'Callaghan (National Executive),
Young Liberals,
London.

NATIONALITY



● Loyalists: allegiance to a foreign imperialist power yet to be 'cherished equally?'
through the centuries, then I propose that we should debate our acceptance of them as 'children of the nation'.
"Allegiance should be the criteria for granting adult nationality (for example, the voting age causes you to choose)

one stands. If federalism was a sop to loyalism then surely any identification as Irish of those who don't aspire to the national ideal of unity, self-determination and sovereignty demands an equal if not greater rejection.

"Even if you are born on Irish soil, you still have to choose your country of allegiance, if your loyalty lies outside the national interest then you should leave for the country of your allegiance.

"Free Statism and loyalism travel a similar road - they subvert the national status as a unitary body and perpetuate sectarianism and injustice to maintain their own sectional privileged interests.

"There are those in our midst who pay lip-service to an ideal whilst by their actions or inaction have played a role in dividing our forces.

"I say that you can't sectionalise democracy - it must be power to the people as a whole.

"You can't be Irish and serve the forces which perpetuate division be they Free Statism or loyalism."

"Culinn",
H-Block,
Long Kesh.

the distribution of leaflets alleged to have come from the Republican Movement in the aftermath of a punishment shooting in the area. All of those arrested could account for their movements on the night the leaflets were distributed. Despite this, harassment has continued and in at least one case of those arrested, was threatened with "losing your job unless you're more co-operative." Another had his name written by the Branch on one of these leaflets and told that copies would be made and circulated with his name on them, inferring that criminal elements would not be long getting him.

This type of harassment and threatening behaviour cannot go on ignored. The local Martin Forsythe Sinn Féin cumann in a recent statement condemned the despicable attitude of the Special Branch and the psychological torture they continue to inflict on those arrested in the Walkinstown area, also stating that their behaviour was nothing new to republicans as they have been subjected to their 'Castlereagh-type techniques' before.

In conclusion, may I quote what many people I have spoken to have asked: What were these people (the Special Branch) doing while old people were being mugged and beaten up in our area, while cars and houses were being broken into, or while the drug pushers were destroying the lives of the young people in our area?

PRO,
Martin Forsythe Sinn Féin cumann,
Rathfarnham/Walkinstown, County Dublin.



● Dublin Special Branch: Castlereagh-type tactics

Parochialism

Dear Sir,

I read with considerable interest G. Perlin's letter (The Way Forward', *AP/RN*, October 21st), which voiced valid criticism of the parochialism inherent in areas of the Republican Movement.

Unwelcome as it is, or however unintentional it may be, parochialism does exist. Republicans from 'unfashionable' areas seem to come up against a 'Catch 22' situation where, in order to be seriously accepted as new members of the Republican Movement, they must have a republican tradition stretching back to '98.

However, the Republican Movement will grow, despite this failing. The successes for Sinn

Fein in the assembly elections show that not only does republican support exist but actively wishes to be up to the leadership of the Republican Movement to ensure that the political/military struggle is enlarged to embrace the active participation of greater numbers of people.

PRO,
James Conolly/Francis Hughes Sinn Féin cumann, Ballymena.

Irish classes

A Chara,

In recent weeks there has been some confusion about the

Irish classes at 5 Blessington Street, Dublin. These classes will continue without interruption, we hope, from next Saturday, October 30th, at 7.30pm.
Desun Breathnach
Dun Laoghaire.

Dublin raids

A Chara,

I am writing to inform your readers and indeed the general public of the recent upsurge in Special Branch harassment involving people from the Walkinstown area. Over the past week a number of houses have been the targets of early-morning raids.

Seven people have been arrested so far with some being held over a 12-hour period. All questioning has centred around

D F I R A R B I T H ?

LE TOMÁS O SE

CHEAPFA, ag éisteacht leis na polaiteoirí agus ag léamh na tráchtairí polaitiúla sna nuachtáin go raibh díospóireacht doimhin ar siúl faoi láthair mar gheall ar chúrsaí polaitiúla sna Sé Chontae Fíchead. Gach uair a thógann tu nuachtán tá sé lan d'altanna ag míniú na difríochtaí atá idir na páirtithe éagsúla agus na polaiteoirí éagsúla.

Ach, sé frinne an soeíl gur beag an difríocht atá idir na páirtithe éagsúla agus idir na polaiteoirí éagsúla. Tá sé seo le feiceáil go soiléir nuair a dheintear scrúduithe ar imeachtaí le cupla bliain anuas. Níl ann ach difríochtaí pearsan agus go leagann siad béim ar gneithe éagsúla dá bpólasaithe chun a chur in iúl go bhfuil difríochtaí eatartha.



● O hEochaid, MacGearailt agus O Laoighaire - tréigtheoirí srostaíntínacha go léir dtaobh eile. Dheineadar araon gearleantúir ar phoblachtach. Thugadar araon gach cunamh do forsaí na Breataine chun an teorann a chosaint. Táid araon i bhfábhair ath-aontú na hÉireann ar bhonn an tsíocháin. Níl de dhifir eatartha ach na focail a úsáideann siad agus go dtéann siad gach seans a chleas a ionasf ar bhonn na bfoical san. Níor dheineadar, céachtar díbh, faic chun na stalcooirí ocras a shabháil anuraidh.



O thaobh cursaí eacnamaíochta de níl difir ar lúth idir Fhianna Fáil agus Fine Gael. Doireann an Páirtí Oibreachais go bhfuil siad ag obair ar son an lucht oibre ach gach uair a fuair siad greim ar chumhacht Rialtais, ghlac siad le agus thug siad tacaíocht do bheartais a bhí chun aimhlessa an lucht oibre. Ní gá ach smaoinreamh siar go dtí cáinfháisnéis na bliana seo cainte nuair a thabhaigh siad le cáin a ghearradh ar éadaí agus



ar bhróga. Is fiú go speisialta siúl a chaitheamh ar an méid atá ag tarlúint faoi láthair mar gheall ar an gcrúchas as ina bhfuil na cáipitiligh faoi láthair. Tá na polaiteoirí tar éis fiacha móra a cheangal le muintir na Sé Chontae Fíchead agus amois deirtear go raibh an pobal ag maireachtáil ar chaidéan beatha ró ard. Tar éis na cáinte go léir a chloisint is soiléir go bhfuil Fianna Fáil agus Fine Gael aont-

aithse na mhéid is go nglacann siad leis gurab iad na hoibríthe a chaithefidh an fiacha a ghlacadh. Tá sé soiléir leis gur tré isilthe páigh agus árdaithe cáinach ar an lucht oibre a dhéanfar é seo. Aontaíonn siad leis go bhfuil gá le gearradh siar ar sheirbhísí don bpobal.

SAMPLA

Páirtithe na gcaipitealach is ea iad agus i ndeireadh na dála níl dabht ar bith ach go bhfuil an páirtí Oibreachais mar an gcéanna. Cá bhfágann sé sin Páirtí na nOibríthe? Is leor a rá gur thug siad a dtacaíocht do Charles Haughey siad a vóta le Taoiseach a thoghadh.

Dá mba ghé é, fuair eamr sampla an-mhaith des na difríochtaí pearsanta atá taobh thiar des na grúpaí éagsúla leis an méid a tharla i bhFianna Fáil le deanaí. Ní raibh san argoint ar fad ach difríochtaí pearsan idir McCreevey agus Haughey. Ní raibh fáil eile i gceist. Ní raibh polaitíocht ar bith i gceist.

Sin é a chairde, má tá athrú ar bhunús an sochfaí sa tír seo le cur i gcrích, ní féidir a bheith ag siúl leis os na páirtithe i dTeach Laighean. Sinn Féin an t-aon páirtí go bhfuil an tuisceant agus na polasaithe aige chun gur feidir linn cothrom na féinne a thabhairt do chách.

Burke's at the back
BY KEVIN BURKE

What the hell are you doing here?

WHAT CAN we make of the following conversation, transmitted as part of the first BBC 'Nationwide' programme in the 'Who governs Ulster?' series on Tuesday night of last week.

James Prior is shown meeting a female member of the British army.
Prior: "Where are you from, then?"
Female Brit: "Yorkshire."
Prior: "Yorkshire! Well, what the hell are you doing here, then?"
Female Brit (rather taken aback): "Oh, I don't know ... I like the weather."

★ ★ ★

Plain-clothes British soldiers and plain-clothes RUC apparently mistook each other for IRA Volunteers last Monday night, October 25th, when they were involved in a gun battle near Belfast city centre. Unfortunately there do not seem to have been any casualties on either side.

The armed undercover soldiers, later euphemistically described as 'off-duty', were travelling along Great Patrick Street in the city when their car broke down. One of the group went to a phone kiosk to telephone for help, but a passer-by — noticing that he was armed — phoned the RUC.

An RUC gun squad rushed to the scene and opened fire at once, without challenging the group. The Brits, thinking they were victims of an IRA ambush, returned fire, before the mix-up was realised. Red faces all round.

★ ★ ★

One of Margaret Thatcher's top advisors on Home Affairs (which includes immigration, policing and prisons) has been named as a former member of the National Front by the anti-fascist magazine *Searchlight* in Britain.

Peter Shipley, recently appointed to the British prime minister's Downing Street Policy Unit (the 'think tank'), was listed as a member of the National Front in the late 1960s and given the membership number 8699.

Shipley has denied all knowledge of the link but a Downing Street spokesperson has offered the explanation that Shipley, a well-known Tory right-winger, had contacted the National Front for the purposes of research and purchasing literature for a pamphlet he wrote published by the CIA-financed Institute for the Study of Conflict.

No reason is offered, however, as to why the date of the recorded membership precedes the pamphlet by more than eight years.

★ ★ ★

The humiliation of the Workers' Party in last week's assembly elections could well have something to do with their attitude towards the electorate.

On polling day in South Derry, the Workers' Party candidate for Mid-Ulster, Francis Donnelly, and his agent, passed for a chat with Sinn Fein candidate Benedict McElwee and Richard Behal, who was working in his campaign.

Conversation got round to prospects of success and inevitably the Sinn Feiners brought up the Fermanagh/South Tyrone by-elections.

"Don't talk to us about Fermanagh/South Tyrone," spluttered Donnelly jumping into his car, "that is the backwoods of politics and the sick joke of Europe."

★ ★ ★

A committee has been set up to administer a Bobby Sands Commemoration School Prize Essay each year, offering seven prizes totalling £900.

The competition, with a first prize of £400, will be open to any boy or girl attending school in Ireland between the ages of 13 and 16 years and may be written in Irish or English.

The essay, of not fewer than 3,000 words, will consist of an account of any aspect of the struggle for Irish freedom from 1169 to the present day. Entries have to be in before March 31st, 1983, and there is no entry fee.

Adjudicators include such well-known names as Tomas MacAnna, Ulick O'Connor, Daithí O hOgáin and Ristard de Roiste.

Further information can be obtained from the committee at 57 Arnold Grove, Glengageary, County Dublin, or by telephone from Jim Monaghan at 01-855189.

★ ★ ★

Further to last week's amazing offer to readers of this column to become sponsors for Sinn Fein runners in the Dublin City



● Taking last Monday's Dublin City Marathon in his stride is Inchicore Sinn Fein's Sean Flannery

Marathon, which took place on Monday, October 25th, I have good news to report.

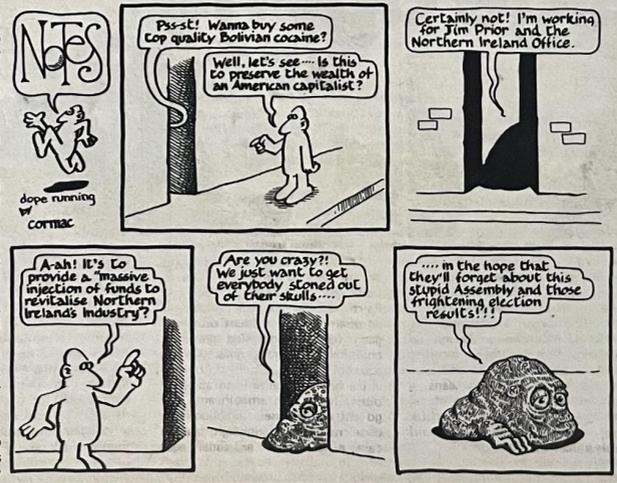
Sean Flannery of Inchicore, Tony O'Flaherty of North Dublin, John Crabbe of Pearse Street, and a fourth, whom I did not mention last week, Christy Dunne of Clondalkin, all finished on the same day as they started.

All were running to raise funds for local Sinn Fein community work and you can still reward their amazing efforts if you wish by

sending in even the smallest donations to this column.

★ ★ ★

Which reminds me. I was told the other day that if I jogged five miles every morning and five miles every evening, in a week's time I'd be seventy miles away. I'm still thinking about that one.



WHAT'S ON

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

ARD FHEIS WEEKEND
LIBERTIES COMMUNITY CENTRE
BENEFIT DISCO
8 pm Saturday 30th October
The Brown Derby
James's Street
DUBLIN
Admission 70p
Buses 21, 21A, 78 & 78A
Organised by Sinn Fein

CEILI
Featuring 'The Eamon Ceant Ceili Band'
9.30pm Saturday 30th October
Mansion House
DUBLIN
Ceal isteach £2
Organised by Sinn Fein

BALLAD SESSION
Featuring 'The Irish Brigades'
7.30 pm Sunday 31st October
The Embankment
TALLAGHT
County Dublin
Buses 65 & 65A
Organised by An Cumann Cabhrach

IRISH POWs
PUBLIC MEETING & FILM SHOW
7.30 pm Wednesday 3rd November
Holborn Central Library
Theobalds Road
LONDON WC1
Admission 50p
(30p in advance, OAPs & UB 40)
Organised by N. London Irish Solidarity Cttee.

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

CEILI & BUFFET
Featuring 'The Boffield Ceili Band' & special guest Seamus Tansy
9pm Friday 5th November
May 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 Saturday 6th November
Durham Prison
DURHAM
England
All welcome to attend
Organised by the Tyne-side Action Committee on Ireland

FRANK DRIVER
COMMEMORATION
After 11.30 am Mass
Sunday 7th November
BALLYMORE EUSTATE
County Kildare
Prominent speaker

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

IRISH POWs IN ENGLISH JAILS
PUBLIC MEETING
8pm Wednesday 10th November
Junior Common Room
Trinity College
DUBLIN
Admission free
Speakers: Neil Blaney TD, MEP; Richard Balfe MEP; & Paddy Prendiville (journalist)

BALLAD SESSION
Featuring 'The Dublin City Ramblers'
8pm Friday 12th November
Brigid Burke's
Old Bawn
TALLAGHT
County Dublin
Admission £2
Buses 49 & 49A
Organised by Fianna Eireann

REPRESSION IN THE SIX
COUNTIES DAY-SCHOOL
10.30 am to 5 pm Sat. 13th November
Glasgow University
University Gardens
GLASGOW
Admission £1 (50p UB 40)
Speakers: Dennis Canavan MP, Vince Mills (Ind. Labour Publications), & a member of Derry Trades Council

REVIEW PAGE

TV & RADIO

The power of the Empire

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

LAST THURSDAY'S television coverage of the assembly election results was the most entertaining presentation I have seen in a long time.

On BBC 1, there were several memorable moments, some amounting to pure slapstick comedy (no pun intended), as the results of the vote-counting came in and the faces of David Duneth and Brian Walker grew longer and longer at the extent of the Sinn Féin "bomb-bait".

The computers too appeared shattered by the result, typified by Duneth at one stage turning round to the "scoreboard" behind him to read out the results so far, only to find none recorded, just a series of noughts.

And the John De Loran look-alike, Robert McCartney of the Official Unionists, rattling the skeleton of Kinora before a spluttering Ian Paisley.

DELIGHT

But the RTE coverage was a sheer delight - pure farce. 'Today Tonight' belatedly joined the BBC coverage for a few brief minutes, then jumped back to Dublin to avoid Gerry Adams, then slipped in an interview with Charles Haughey on his economic plan, then back to Belfast for a panel of chosen politicians, then Dublin politicians are brought into the Sinn Féin-less discussion, then Paisley walks off the Belfast panel, Paddy Cooney records his horror at the results and the programme gratefully collapsed.

Any real coverage of the main story of the day - the Sinn Féin success - was diligently kept from the 25% of the

Free State population who cannot get BBC and UTV. RTE could not even bring itself to give any detailed results from the counts; but Section 31 survived, humiliated embarrassed, ridiculous and in tatters, but still there, like Canute on the beach.

The election was also the main story in 'Weekend World' when the tetchy Brian Walden had James Prior squirming. At one point, in the face of Walden's insistence on a definite answer, "without fudging", on the future of the assembly, Prior replied:

"I won't let you pin me down to that degree of clarity."

He was even more enlightening when he demonstrated his grasp of the political subtleties of the North:

"There is all the difference in the world," he solemnly announced, "between the SDLP and Sinn Féin."

A point well-appreciated by a large proportion of the North's nationalist electorate.

'Star Wars' was shown on UTV on Sunday night. Luke



UTV's screening of 'Star Wars' on Sunday night reminded me of Sinn Féin's election results - the forces of justice and freedom triumph once again!

Skywalker, deriving his strength from his culture and tradition of fighting for justice and freedom, wins out against the awesome power of the Empire. A great film. It reminded me of the assembly elections.

'Harry's Game' is an adaptation of the novel the same name by Gerald Seymour, a former ITN reporter. It is about a British agent 'infiltrating' the

Falls Road. In three parts, showing Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week on UTV, the first part was promising, even if the conclusion was already predictable. But scenes in Belfast, unfavourable to the Brits, were shown, which is unusual in dramas like these.

RTE 1 covered the Radio 2 Dublin City Marathon on Monday, a bank holiday in the

twenty-six counties. We were shown the start of the race, and then shown it again, and then had to wait for one and a half hours until the runners completed over three-quarters of the run and reached Raheny where the only other camera was.

However, the crowds waiting at Raheny, and back at Stephen's Green, got great coverage and jumped up and down and waved at the camera. It was probably very exciting for any of their relatives looking-in at home.

Brendan O'Reilly's commentary was heavily laden with his obsession about how many of the 'professional classes' were running. He must have told six times or more that there were 268 architects and so many hundred bank officials and hundreds more civil servants taking part. The number of solicitors running was up this year, accountants slightly down, doctors about the same.

The only significance in this is perhaps that they are the only people with the time and energy to train for the event, and, of course, the money for the expensive running shoes, track-suits and little extras.

I'm sure, in the eleven thousand, there were some of the working classes, but O'Reilly was certainly not making them welcome.

Jerry Kieran from Listowel won the race. I don't know what he works at.

Frightened for my life

BY DECLAN HAYES

"I'M FRIGHTENED for my life when I'm in these nicks," was the reason given by Patrick Galvin for long refusing to give evidence concerning the death in prison of fellow inmate Barry Prosser. Prosser's is the first of seven deaths in custody - two of the others being of Irish political prisoners Giuseppe Conlon and Sean O'Connell - recorded in this book, 'Frightened For My Life - an account of deaths in British prisons'.

Prosser, a big burly man, died while in custody at Winson Green Prison in Birmingham. The coroner's verdict was that he was unlawfully killed. At the inquest the pathologist stated that Prosser's body was bruised from head to toe and said:

"It is perfectly plain that he had been assaulted and very seriously assaulted. He must have been held down by some people while another or others struck him."

Detailing the many injuries Prosser received, the pathologist

said of a massive injury to his stomach:

"If he had been lying on his back, a heavy man dropping with his whole weight on to the unprotected abdomen, perhaps with feet, could have been responsible for the injuries."

The other deaths recorded in this excellent book include that of George Wilkinson who, the authors state, "died like an animal, the victim of a barbaric state ritual and an uneven struggle for power between one

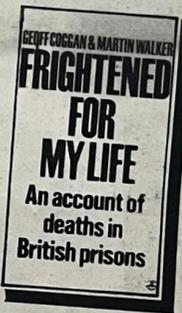
BOOK

captured man and his keepers."

Stephen Smith was found hanging in his cell. At the inquest a fully-fit fourteen-stone policeman was unable to rip the actual sheet used to make the noose used in the hanging. As a result of a car accident Smith had developed faulty co-ordination in his hands. He was not even able to hold a cup of tea steady and the act of ripping a sheet would have been far beyond him. Because of this disability, the authors believe that Stephen Smith was murdered.

TERMINAL

While blaming the authorities for all seven deaths cited, the authors specifically blame medical negligence for the deaths of John Duddy and Sean



O'Connell. O'Connell's terminal cancer was only diagnosed a mere eleven days before he died. Proper medical supervision, the authors state, would have diagnosed cancer, curable in O'Connell's case, in time to save his life.

The case of Patrick 'Giuseppe' Conlon from Belfast's Falls Road is also described in detail, the controversy surrounding his

arrest and conviction and those of his co-accused is well documented as is the related case of the Guildford and Woolwich Four, one of whom was Conlon's son Gerry.

Death did not end the agony for his family. Both British Airways and the RAF having refused to fly his body home to Belfast, his corpse was brought home via Aer Lingus to Dublin and thence by rail to Belfast. His widow was faced with an enormous bill for all of this.

The authors use the cases of these seven men to build a disturbing picture of Britain's prisons. They show how Special Control Units and the notorious Rule 43 are used to physically and mentally break prisoners. They recount recent riots in Parkhurst, Wormwood Scrubs and Hull prisons and show how the Official Secrets Act and the code of medical practitioners are used to cover up the brutalities inflicted on the prisoners in those disturbances.

Medical malpractice is widespread in Britain's prisons, the authors claim. They recount how the British Blood Transfusion Board have refused to

take prisoners' blood, due to the risk of hepatitis caused by lack of cleanliness in Britain's prison hospitals.

Drugs are far too widely used and their overuse is connected with nearly all the cases recounted in this book. Of the most used of these drugs, Largactil, the authors say:

"The chemical name for Largactil is chlorpromazine, under which name its use by the Soviet authorities in 'treating' Russian dissidents has been widely condemned in this country."

Comparison is not confined to the Soviet Union for in the introduction Britain's prisons are compared, most unfavourably, to those in other West European countries.

This book makes very informative reading for all of those interested in doing something for those behind bars including those who, because of their isolation, are, as the book shows, too frightened for their lives to protest.

'Frightened For My Life', by Geoff Coscan and Martin Walker is published by Fontana Paperbacks, Glasgow. Price Stg. £1.95.

Tá Gaeilge agam

LE COLLA Ó MUIRÍ

CAITHFIDH tú bheith i do phoblachtach ceithre uair is fiche sa lá. Fuair mé sin amach lá dá raibh mé ar lorg gíche shuaimhneach shóisialta le roinnt cairde de mo chuid. Ní mar sin a bhí sé mar tháinig fear sa chomhlúadar a raibh a fhios aige cad é an barúil atá agam ar chursaí polaitiúchá. Bhí rún aige tuairimí láidir a dhearbhu línn agus lasadh teanga a thabhairt don ghluaiseacht os mo chomhair.

"Any way" a dúirt sé. "I'm a better Irish man than any of them. Tá Gaeilge agam."

"Are you fluent at Irish?" a dúirt mise.

"Indeed. And I often spent the summer in the Gaeltacht."

"Mar sin de," a dúirt mé, "Tá ceist agam ort. An rud maithé don Ghaeilge go bhfuiliimid faoi stiúir na Sasana ó thaobh na polaitiúchá de?"

Seoith sé amach mar fhreagra: "Listen you, stop speaking your stupid Irish, I know it too, and listen to what I've got to say..."

NÍ TÍR GAN SAOIRSE

Is dócha gur thuálaig daoine

féin, "Sé, dá mbeadh Gaeilge a labhairt mar ghnath-theanga an phobail bheimis saor." Agus shilleadh nach raibh a dhath ar bith eile de dhíth orainn chun bheith saor ach Gaeilge a bheith a labhairt.

FAOI CHOIS NA GALL

Cuireadh an tír seo faoi chois nuair a bhí an Ghaeilge mar ghnath-theanga an phobail. Tá a thionn againn go raibh Gaeilge ag tromlach ar muintire go dtí 'an Gorta Mor', ach ní raibh saoire acu. Chomh maith leis sin thig líne smaointiú ar chogaf cathartha i dtíortha eile idir an eite chéile agus tíortha eile. Ní raibh ceist teangan i gceist ansin.

Is é an rud atá ann mar sin de go bhfuil Gaeilge á bhainteach ach ní fuil teanga gan pobal. Caithfidh an pobal náisiúnta a bheith mar phobal Gaelach agus thig líne teoiteacht le labhairt beaga anseo is ansin. Is beag duine nach dtig leis 'faite' nó 'slán' a rá le cara. Is féidir líne rudaí mar



Fíor-Ghaeil ag mairéail ar son na cúig Gílimh

sin a theagasc do dhaoine i rith an ama. Agus le linn dúinn an pobal a Ghaelú, ní mór ceisteanna móra eile a thabhairt chun tosáigh. Mar shampla thig línn caint faoi saibhreas litríochta na Gaeilge agus 'Droimeann Donn Dís' a lua:

"Dá bhfaighinnse cead aghnís nó radharc ar an gcoróin, Sacsanaigh do leachbainn mar do leachbainn seanbhog..."

Is é an rud atá ann mar sin de go bhfuil Gaeilge á bhainteach ach ní fuil teanga gan pobal. Caithfidh an pobal náisiúnta a bheith mar phobal Gaelach agus thig líne teoiteacht le labhairt beaga anseo is ansin. Is beag duine nach dtig leis 'faite' nó 'slán' a rá le cara. Is féidir líne rudaí mar

Rathvilly commemoration

ABOUT 200 people, many of whom travelled from Dublin, attended the annual Kevin Barry commemoration at Rathvilly, County Carlow, last Sunday, October 24th.

A colour party of Na Fianna Eireann and Cumann na nGalliní, followed by the local St Patrick's Pipe Band, led a parade through the town to the Kevin Barry memorial, where a wreath was laid.

The proceedings were chaired by Tom Kenny of Carlow, Sinn Fein, and the main oration was given by Sinn Fein president Ruairi O Bradraig, Rose Dugdale of Dublin Sinn Fein also spoke.



Kevin Barry commemoration at Rathvilly, County Carlow, last Sunday, October 24th.

Irish Lesson

2

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

CH is sounded as in **LOCH ERNE**. D and T before A, O and U are thick, spoken with the tongue pressed against the upper front teeth.

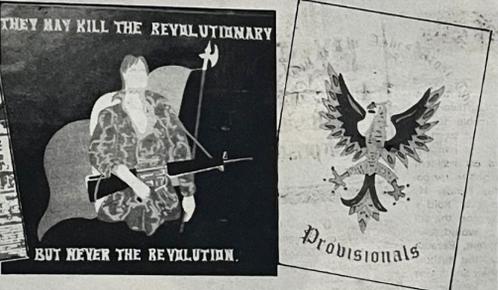
DH and GH are like a G far back in the throat — almost a Gargle.

PHRASES

- níl mé laidir — I am not strong
- níl tú flúch — you are not wet
- níl sé geal inniu — it is not bright today
- níl sí lag — she is not weak
- nílimid reamhar — we are not fat
- níl sibh árd — you are not tall
- níl siad tanaí — they are not thin
- má se do thoil é (maw shay do hull ay) — please
- go raibh maith agat (gurra mohah gah) — thank you
- fáilte romhat (fall-tyeh rothe) — you are welcome
- níl fonn orm (neel fown urum) — I don't feel like it

- níl sé (neel shay) — he, or it, is not
- níl sí (neel shee) — she, or it, is not
- nílimid (neelmeed) — we are not
- níl sibh (neel shiv) — you are not
- níl siad (neel shee-ud) — they are not

- flúch (fluyuch) — wet
- trim (tirim) — dry
- geal (g-yall) — bright
- dorcha (doruchuh) — dark
- reamhar (row) — fat
- tanaí (tanai) — thin
- lag (log) — weak
- laidir (lawdir) — strong
- árd (awrd) — tall
- neel mé (neel may) — I am not
- níl tú (neel too) — you are not



Christmas Cards

CHRISTMAS CARDS on the themes of 'They May Kill the Revolutionary But...', 'Out of the Ashes...' and 'The Last Man' — which include quotations from Padraig Pearse, Maire Drumm and Bobby Sands

— have been issued by Sinn Fein. They cost 15p each plus postage or £1.50 for 10 including postage and are available from: The National Finance Committee, Sinn Fein, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

REMEMBERING THE PAST

Death in Ballyheigue

BY SEAN O'BRIEN

THE DEATH of Kerry man John Lawlor in 1922 is just one of many recorded in Dorothy Macardle's 'Tragedies of Kerry' which deals with just one of the many republicans murdered by Free State troops during the Civil War.

More than any county perhaps, Kerry suffered cruelly during that period, a time which is still remembered today in what remains one of Ireland's most republican areas.

"It would have been the destiny of those young Kerry men," Dorothy Macardle wrote, "to live, in a free Ireland, vigorous, well-reputed, achieving lives; to observe their generation a little, and die, and be remembered a little while."

"It was their destiny to live a score or more of poverty-bitten years, burden-

ed and obscure; to rise up in their passionate valour and hurl themselves against Ireland's enemy; to die violent deaths; to become the awakers and redeemers of their nation and be remembered while Ireland lives."

One such was John Lawlor of Ballyheigue, County Kerry, who joined the Volunteers in 1918 and fought through the Tan War. He continued to fight on the republican side during the Civil War.

On the night of October 30th, a division of Free State troops surrounded

Ballyheigue. Lawlor was able to lead out two companies of IRA men from the besieged town and then returned with the couple of comrades to bring out some further arms.

The three were captured, but later overpowered and disarmed the one soldier left to guard them, took his rifle and fled over the fields.

Unfortunately, they headed straight into an enemy post, were seen and fired on. The other two escaped, but John Lawlor was wounded and again taken prisoner.

A short while later, in the early hours of the morning of October 31st, 1922, the Free State troops summarily pronounced a death sentence on Lawlor and shot him dead. They left his body in the street of Ballyheigue, outside the church gate.

BLAKE, Peter; MCGOLDRICK, Tom, (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Peter Blake and Tom McGoldrick, Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na hEireann, who died while on active service duty on October 27th 1970. I measc Laochra na nGael go raibh a manamacha. Never forgotten by their friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

BLAKE, Peter, (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Peter Blake, Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na hEireann, who was killed on active service on October 27th 1970. Always remembered and sadly missed by his father and sister Teresa and family.

BLAKE, Peter; MCGOLDRICK, Tom, (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of two brave young Irish men Vol Peter Blake and Tom McGoldrick, Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na hEireann, who died on active service on October 27th 1970. Fuair siad bas as troid ar son na saoirse. Never forgotten by their friends and comrades in the Clonard Martyrs Sinn Fein cumann, Belfast.

DRUMM, Maire, (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Maire Drumm, Sinn Fein ard comhairle, who was brutally murdered by pro-British elements on October 28th 1976. Always remembered by Jimmy and family.

DRUMM, Maire, (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Maire Drumm, murdered on October 28th 1976. "They may kill the revolutionary but never the revolution." Always remembered by the Maire Drumm Sinn Fein cumann, Clondalkin, County Dublin.

DRUMM, Maire, (6th Anniversary). In proud memory of our good friend Maire who was brutally murdered by pro-British elements on October 28th 1976. Remembered always by the Tom Williams/Thomas Harte Sinn Fein cumann, Lurgan.

DRUMM, Maire, (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my very good friend Maire, Sinn Fein ard comhairle, who was brutally murdered in the Mater Hospital, Belfast, on October 28th 1976. "We must take no steps backward, our steps must be onward, for, if we don't see the ghosts of the martyrs who died for me, for this country will haunt us for eternity." Remembered always by Liam.

DRUMM, Maire; MCKUSKER, Seamus; MCKENNA, Martin, in proud and loving memory of my friends whose anniversaries occur at this time. Maire who was murdered by pro-British agents on October 28th 1976, Seamus who was murdered by renegade Irish men on October 31st 1975, and Martin who died as a result of a car accident on October 24th 1979. "The dust of these is Irish soil,

among their own they rest and this dear land which gave them birth has caught them to her breast". Remembered always with pride and affection by Pól, Andersonstown, Masses offered.

FORSYTHE, Martin, (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol, Martin Forsythe, Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na hEireann, who did not on active service on October 24th 1971. Always remembered by the Martin Forsythe Sinn Fein cumann, Belfast.

MCKUSKER, Seamus, (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Seamus McKusker, Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na hEireann, who was shot dead by renegade Irish men on October 31st 1975. Chait sé a shaoi as troid ar son saoirse mhuintir na hEireann. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

MCKUSKER, Seamus, (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Seamus McKusker who was murdered on October 31st 1975. Remembered always by the Tom Williams/Thomas Harte Sinn Fein cumann, Lurgan.

MCKUSKER, Seamus, (7th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Seamus McKusker who was murdered by renegade Irish men on October 31st 1975. A tireless worker for the republican cause. Always remembered by Liam.

MEENAN, Michael, (8th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Michael Meenan, Gerry Brigade, Ogligh na hEireann, who was killed on active service on October 30th 1974. Thug sé a raibh aise ag troid ar son na saoirse. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Gerry Brigade.

MEENAN, Michael, (8th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Michael Meenan, Gerry Brigade, Ogligh na hEireann, who was killed on active service on October 30th 1974. "They may kill the revolutionary but never the revolution." Always remembered by Gerry Sinn Fein.

SCULLION, Stevie, (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Stevie Scullion who died on October 4th 1976. Codai go cuin i measc saochra nGael. Always remembered by George, Mick and Eugene (Portlaoise).

SYMPATHY

COLEMAN, The Limerick comhairle centaur, Sinn Fein, express their sincere sympathy to Angela Coleman on the recent death of her husband, Go ndéanna Dia troaire ar a anam.

CORRIGAN, Deepest sympathy is extended to the loving wife and family circle of Peter Corrigan of County Armagh who was murdered on Monday, October 27th, 1976, by the North Armagh Sinn Fein Election Committee and the North Armagh comhairle centaur comrades, Mick and Eugene (Portlaoise), Francis Hughes and Tom Williams/Thomas Harte Sinn Fein cumann.

GREETINGS

BAKER, Paul, (H7-Block). Happy birthday, son. From me and my brothers and sisters. Also from brother Liam (Garrae).

BAKER, Paul, (H7-Block). Happy birthday, Paul. From aunt Ma, Anne, aunt Agnes, aunt Theresa and family; aunt Bridget and family; and uncle Joe and family.

BAKER, Paul, (H7-Block). Happy birthday and best wishes. From Rosemary, Eddie and children.

BLAKE, Stephen; DUGGAN, Harry; DUNPHY, Kevin; WALSH, Roy, (Enniskillen). Birthday greetings and best wishes. Keep your spirits up, we're behind you all the way. From the Sinn Fein (W.D.) Dept., Dublin.

BOYLE, Garmon, (H6-Block). Birthday greetings for November 1st, Dermot. From your father, mother, brother, and sisters, and all your friends around Cappagh.

COUGHLAN, Martin, (Hull). All the best for your birthday on November 4th. Hope to see you sometime in the future. From Big Dominic, Glasgow, UTP.

DUGGAN, Harry, (Parkurst). Happy birthday, Harry, for October 31st. Thinking of you always. From Big Dominic, Glasgow, UTP.

DUGGAN, Harry, (Parkhurst). Best wishes for your birthday on October 31st. Harry. From Joe and Martina.

DUNPHY, Kevin, (Wormwood Scrubs). Greetings to you on your birthday, Kevin. From your brother John and all your friends in Ireland.

DUNPHY, Kevin, (Wormwood Scrubs). Birthday greetings, Kevin. You and your comrades are an inspiration to us all. From the Waterford comhairle centaur, Sinn Fein, and the Cathal Brugha Sinn Fein cumann, Waterford.

GIBSON, Joe, (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, Joe. From your brother Andy and Eileen, UTP.

GIBSON, Joe; McCABE, Francis, (Portlaoise). Happy birthday and best wishes, Joe and Francis. From the Sinn Fein POW Dept., Dublin.

HOLDEN, Michael, (H6-Block). Happy birthday, Michael. Greetings to you and your comrades in your struggle for political status. Love from Lily and Sean Fitzsimons and family. Victory to the Provos.

LYNCH, Kevin, (H6-Block). Happy birthday, Kevin. From your ever-loving mum, dad and all the family.

LYNCH, Kevin, (H6-Block). Best wishes on your birthday, Kevin. From Noel, Kate and family.

LYNCH, Kevin, (H6-Block). Happy 21st birthday, Kevin. From Peter, Marie, Sean and Donald.

LYNCH, Kevin, (H6-Block). Happy birth-

day, Kevin. From all your friends in Clones. May your next birthday be celebrated in freedom.

McCABE, Francis, (Portlaoise). Happy birthday for October 27th. From daddy, Dave, Paddy and all the family.

MCCRORY, Alec, (H8-Block). Happy 21st birthday, Alec. Sorry you can't have you in their keeping but I have you in my heart. All my love, Patricia, xxx

MCCRORY, Alec, (H8-Block). Happy birthday, Alec. Wishing you all the best. From Marie, Owen and wee Sean. Also from Sean and Baghe.

MCCRORY, Alec, (H8-Block). Happy birthday, Alec, and congratulations on (Enniskillen) the three years of your political status. Love from aunt Lily, uncle Sean and cousins Sean, Marie, Bob and Gerry. Also from Bobby, Barry, Paula and Seamus; and from your cousin Eileen, UTP.

MCCRORY, Alec, (H8-Block). Very best wishes and all our love to your birthday, son. I believe and I stand by the God-given right of the Irish nation to sovereign independence and the right of any Irish man or woman to assert this right in armed revolution. That is why I am incarcerated and tortured. All our love from dad, mum, brothers, sisters and family circle UTP.

MCCRORY, Alec, (H8-Block). Happy 21st birthday, Alec. Hope to see you soon, God bless you. Congratulations also on completing three years on protest. Love from Bobby, Jean and cousins. Greetings in from your cousin Bobby, Barry, Paula and Seamus; and from your cousin Eileen, UTP.

MCCRORY, Alec, (H8-Block). Happy 21st birthday, Alec. All our love, prayers and thoughts are with you. Hope to see you and all your comrades. God bless you and all your comrades. From gran and grand-dad, UTP. Also from 'Gradaise' and from your uncle Harry, Hugh and family.

McCABE, Francis, (Portlaoise). Thinking of you on your birthday, darling. Lots of love from Eileen.

McCABE, Francis, (Portlaoise). Fondest regards on your birthday, Frank. From all your family and friends.

McCABE, Francis, (Portlaoise). Happy birthday and best wishes, Frank. From Bridget.

McCABE, Francis, (Portlaoise). Happy birthday, Francis. How does it feel to be 'over the hill'? Best regards from wee Sinéad and all the family.

O'CALLAGHAN, Sean, (H6-Block). All the best on your birthday, Sean. Lots of love from everyone all No. 15.

O'CALLAGHAN, Sean, (H6-Block). Happy birthday with many more to come and hoping they will be spent in freedom. Love from Bridget and Eileen.

POLL-TOPPER!

OWEN CARRON, already Westminster MP for Fermanagh/South Tyrone, topped the poll there for Sinn Fein in last week's assembly election, with a massive 14,025 votes, outpolling, on his own, the combined vote of the three SDLP candidates by over 2,000.

Not surprisingly, his enthusiastic supporters were on hand to celebrate the Sinn Fein success.

