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tá athrú anois

CHRIOCHNAIGH Scoil Shamhraidh Merriman an deireadh seachtaine seo caite. De Valeara a ba teama don Scoil, agus b'eagsuil go maith na cainteoiri a labhair lena linn. Ní faoi na cainteoiri ag Scoil na Bliana seo is coir a scríobh, arae, ta abhar an teama beo fos gi go ndeachaigh a chail nios faide na chuaigh a chosa.

Is trathuil, afach, go bhfuil ar fail fosta i gcruith leabhraín, leacht a thug Breandan o hEithir an Mhairtin O Cadhain ag Scoil Gheimhridh Merriman 1971. Sa leacht sin bhain o hEithir sleachta fluirseacha as scríbhneoireacht Mhairtin Uí Chadhain, ach mar thus da leacht déir Breandan an meid seo a leanas:-

"I dtús an tSamhraidh sa bhliain 1946 thainig sceal anoir as Inis Mean go hInis Mor go raibh fear as an gcoitiantacht darbh ainm Mairtin O Cadhain as ceantar an spideil ar saoire ansin. Chualamar go raibh seal fada caite i bpriosun aige i ngeall ar bheith san I.R.A., agus go raibh an sagart pobail in amhras air ar an gcuis seo."

Maise, ní hé an t-aon sagart paroiste a bhi in amhras ar dhaoine toisc iad a bheith bainteach leis an I.R.A. no faoi mar dearfadh siad fein, "baint a bheith acu le cumann midhlithiúil. Aon duine againn a thainig faoi anail agus tionchar an eagrais sin, is go hamhrasach a mheas na sagairt muid. Buiochas do Dhia go bhfuil athru ar na cursaí sin anois.

Sheasaigh RUC i Leataobh

BAILE MEASARTHA mor e Baile an Chaisleain. Baile e a bhfuil dearcadh naisiunta ag formhor an phobail. Baile e ar obair don tragoid imeacht thar thairsi isteach De Domhnaigh seo caite.

Sea, ar bhealach, ta an nimh san fheoil ag na haintoisigh don bhaile sin agus do phobal an bhaile. Blianta o shin (sna seascaidi) nuair a bhi gluaiseacht na Poblachta ag iarraidh feachtas toghchanaiochta a chur ar aghaidh, thug scaifte aintoiseach ionsaí orthu sa Diamond. Agus mar na ghnath leo sheasaigh poilini an R.U.C. i leataobh agus lig do na hamhais sin an ionsaí a dheanamh.

Agus aro ocaid eile chuisigh an Cigire O Lagain (a bhfuil a ainm, go bhfoire Dia orainn, a lua mar an chead cheannaire eile ar an R.U.C.) Sean Mac Eochaidh as an amhran naisiunta, Amhran na bhFiann a chanstan i nGaeilge sa bhaile sin.

Gearradh fineail ar Mhac Eochaidh, agus nuair a dhiultaigh se i a ioc gearradh treimhse coicise i bpriosun air. Ach, an eol duinn go bhfuil corp duine de na Finini a b'iomraití riamh curtha sa reilig sin in aice leis an seipeal. Donall Mac Dara a b'ainm do, agus de bharr a imeachtaí sna Finini i dTuaisceart Shasana, gearradh tamall fada den phriosuntacht air.

Theip ar an tsainte air nuair a bhi se sa phriosun, agus is ann a fuair se bas. Ar iarraitas a bhailte, tugadh a chorp ar ais doibh, agus is go curamach a cuireadh e i reilig Naomh Padraig agus Naomh Brid i mBaile an Chaisleain i lar ochtaidí an cheid dheireanaí.





Gerry Fitt

Fitt feasts in style

A NUMBER of SDLP representatives were guests at a banquet lunch in the Culloden Hotel, Hollywood, Craigavad, on Tuesday given by Britain's Prime Minister, Edward Heath.

The lunch, described as "an informal occasion," brought together Stormont politicians and a number of other British helpers including senior British Army men, RUC leaders and the Commandant of Long Kesh Concentration Camp.

MR. GERRY FITT, the Leader of the Stormont and Democratic Labour Party, and the deputy head of the RUC Special Branch, Superintendent Mick Slevin — who was formerly director of the torture compound at Hollywood — had a long conversation over pre-lunch drinks.

They have been close friends since Slevin was a Special Branch sergeant attached to Springfield Road Barracks in the fifties.

On the menu — the centre-piece of which was a model of the Brit Leader's yacht 'Morning Cloud' — was salmon, lobster, pawn and dressed ribs of beef. The appetizer was caviar and dessert was sherry trifle and chocolate mousse.

Mr. Fitt described the meal as "most enjoyable" He refused to comment, however, when asked if, during his conversation with the Concentration camp commander, he had mentioned the starvation diet given to internees at Long Kesh.

PRIEST -NOT TO BE RETURNED TO SCOTLAND

The Acting Deputy master of the Dublin High Court, Mr. Timothy O'Regan, last Tuesday, made absolute an order quashing the extradition order made at Bandon Court on Kerry-born Rev. Bartholomew Burns.

Fr. Burns (37), of Sneem, is wanted by the Scottish police on a warrant charging him with an offence under the Explosive Substances Act.

Last month the High Court directed District Justice M. J. O'Hara, to show cause why his order should not be quashed, after an application brought by the Attorney General.

At a vacation sitting on Tuesday, Mr. O'Regan was asked to make absolute the conditional order of certiorari granted last month.

Since the extradition order was granted, Fr. Burns has issued a plenary summons in the High Court instituting proceeding challenging the constitutionality of the Extradition Act, 1965, and he was admitted to bail in his own surety of £100 and two independent sureties of £1,000 each, pending the determination of the proceedings.

**COALISLAND/CLONOE
COMMUNITY RELIEF
COMMITTEE**

Letters

Dear Sir,

With reference to the fracas which took place at the anti-Internment Demonstration in the Falls Park on the 9th August, when the N.L.F. and their cohorts, N.I.C.R.A., refused to let Sinn Fein and P.D. speak at the Rally, I would like to ask the Provos why on earth they consented to have anything to do with the N.L.F. and N.I.C.R.A.? Do they not yet realise that these two groups are only out to stab us in the back at the first opportunity?

The Republican Movement and P.D. are the only consistent group in this whole miserable set-up who have principles and stick to them.

The adage, "If thou art to thine own self true, thou canst not then be false to any man" is as true to-day as it was when it was first written and should be

read and re-read by the traitorous popinjays in the NLF, NICRA and SDLP who purport to speak on our behalf.

Yours faithfully
ONE OF THE OLD BRIGADE,
Teghnavan, Lurgan.

Dear Sir

CONGRATULATIONS on Brian Gaffney's "George Washington's Irish Army," a short history on the Irish in the USA.

The Irish also played a great part in the settling of old Upper Canada, which is now the Province of Ontario. It was the Irish who opened up this County of Peterborough, from the Potato Famine immigration years. Both the Orange Protestant Irish and Catholic Irish settled in this large area of Ontario, including Victoria County and Northumberland and Durham County. Location Certificates were issued to the Orange Irish for land as service against their own Irish Fenian Brothers who raided from the USA during the FENIAN RAIDS of 1866/67, into old Upper Canada, even Catholic Irish fought on behalf of the Crown Forces.

Thus the Irish can be found everywhere in the world, even in the most remote parts of old Ontario, Irish Pioneer grave stones can be found.

Yours sincerely
ARTHUR FAIR, Jr., B.A.
Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public
Peterborough Ontario.

NAME CHANGE

The Cumann formerly known as the Edward O'Rawe Sinn Fein cumann Dungannon, has now changed its name to . . . Loughran/Crowley and Carthy.



This new Minibus was purchased by the Coalisland Clonoe Community Relief Committee to convey relatives to and from the various Concentration Camps.



The most humiliating defeat the British Army has suffered in the Twentieth Century occurred less than two years before they arrived in force in Ireland. On November 28th, 1967, the last of the great imperial army fled from South Yemen with their tails firmly tucked between their legs: resoundingly beaten by the small guerrilla armies of the National Liberation Front and the Front For the Liberation of South Yemen. All their brave words about "maintaining Aden as a base for the defence of the Free World" were forgotten.

Guerrilla war began in South Yemen in 1966 when the Brits announced that, despite repeated demands for self-determination, expressed peacefully for generations, they would not leave "Aden" until they had established a "stable government" i.e. a puppet regime which would guarantee them the continued use of the country for military purposes.

At first, little headway was made by the 110,000 population against the 20,000 British troops there. Concentration camps, into which all associated with opposition to British rule were thrown, were opened. Torture chambers were built, and the Special Air Service murder gangs — which have now transferred their activities to Ireland — were turned loose blowing up Arab cafes and leaving hooded bodies lying in the streets.

But by July 1967, the Brits Aden campaign was faltering badly. The Crater district had become a no-go area and little Aden was not much better.

In a blaze of publicity, the Brits mounted a big offensive and the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders — led by the well named "Mad Mitch" Mitchell — re-occupied Crater with massive armour support.

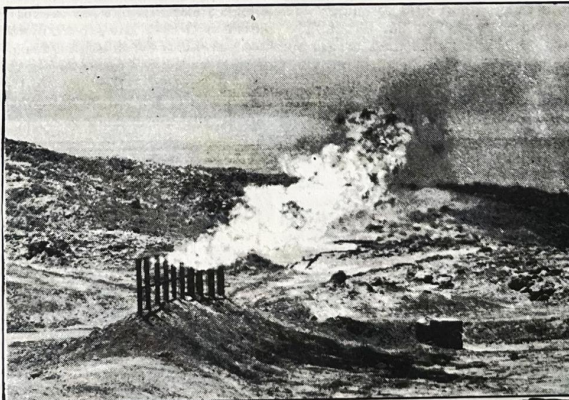
From that point on the Brits suffered defeat after defeat. In a mistake which the stupidly arrogant Brits were to make again in Ireland, with Operation Motorman, they turned the entire population firmly against them.

By early September they had been forced to abandon Little Aden — and with it the £14 million base and oil refinery which they had just finished building.

Later that month the Sheikh Othman and Mansoura districts had to be abandoned to the local resistance forces.

And by October the Brits were ready to concede defeat, calling in a naval force of their two aircraft carriers, an assault vessel, a destroyer and a submarine to cover their "evacuation." But the Yemeni guerrillas were not finished with them yet.

But late October, as the Brits — now numbering 22,000 — were pushed into a smaller and smaller area, it was announced that "the evacuation would be hurried forward" and since they had not time to leave by sea they would go by air. Civilian and military airplanes from every part of Europe and as far away as the U.S. and Australia were chartered for what was described as "the biggest operation of its kind since the Berlin Airlift."



Arab oil field: Refining the Mideast balance of power

Billets and vehicles which were still in British hands were burned and blown up to prevent them falling into the hands of the Arab liberation guerrillas. Ton after ton of stores, radio equipment and weapons were rushed out to sea and dumped, and total confusion reigned throughout the once great imperial army. And, all the while, local resistance forces hammered away at the fleeing Brits.

A little over three months after their great "victory" in Crater, on November 13th, the Brits surrendered, and a ceasefire was agreed to allow them to clear

out without further casualties. It was on that day that the people of Crater had their vengeance. The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders were lined up before a great mass of residents and while T.V. cameras from every part of the Arab world recorded the scene, they were forced to haul down their butcher's rag Union Jack to laughs and jeers from the people they had jack-booted just a short time before. Poor Mad Mitch felt so embarrassed about the whole thing that he left the B.A. immediately after it. One of his officer chums was quoted afterwards as saying: "Well, we might have been forced to salute their beastly flag, but at least we didn't shake hands with those wogs."

At Steamer Point, C. Company of the 1st King's Own Borderers held a bridge-head around "Government House" — residence of her imperial majesty's re-

presentative, "Sir" Humphrey Trevelyan. Poor Humphrey had a rough time. NLF and FLOSY guerrillas — now banded together as the Arab Armed Forces of Occupied South Yemen — had the place well surrounded and occupied all the territory between there and Khormaksar airfield, at the other end of South Yemen, from where Humphrey was due to depart. And a lot of those guerrillas had lost wives and children at the hands of Brit regulars or S.A.S. murder gangs.

Humphrey, being "an English gentleman" thought of handing over the keys of his



house to an A.A.F. officer at a little ceremony. But the resistance fighters became restless as he messed about and a few of them reminded him it was time to go by firing their weapons in the air.

At this, her majesty's representative stumbled into the waiting helicopter, fell flat on his face, to the amusement of the watching Arabs, and was whisked off into the bluë — never to be seen in South Yemen again.

And so, in the words of the London Times, "129 years of British rule in Aden, ended without ceremony." It might have added that peace had returned to that country after 129 years.



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a fact . . .

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REPUBLICAN
VIEWPOINTBy
OUR STRABANE
REPORTERCONCLUDING
THE LAND
QUESTION

Free State territory which the British had the right to use came solely under the jurisdiction of the Dublin Administration. On Land repayments, a final sum of £10 million was transferred to Britain. But is it really all finished?

The land situation to-day is far from satisfactory to the Republican Movement. Many of our rivers are owned by foreigners or native local aristocrats. The populace is largely banned from them. Agriculturally, native and foreign land barons are increasing their hold on the scene. The policy of the Common Market is the extension of the land under their control — always at the expense of the small farmers. That is one reason why Sinn Féin is anti-Common Market.

Why did the Land League fail to stop all this? The answer is relatively simple. The issue of who owns the wealth is intimately linked with British domination. Control of Irish resources was one reason why Britain was there. Total social liberation, therefore, is and was only possible after Britain withdraws and the Irish Workers aim at a Socialist Republic.

The Land Leaguers worked within the confines of the monopoly capitalist system and only created a native land bourgeoisie or facilitated the reconquest of the land as industrialisation drained the country of peasants.

To-day, however, it is only a matter of time till we gain a 32 County Democratic Socialist Republic and withdraw this island from the menacing grip of the Common Market. Then there will be the final solution to the Land Question.

*
Implications

In a letter to the "Irish News" 20/8/73, Brian McK. McGuigan all but demanded that the newspaper refrain from publishing statements by the Republican Movement and pro-Republican correspondence in the letter columns. The amazing thing is that McGuigan is a "moderate" of the New Ulster Movement. If press censorship is the type of society these "moderates" are aiming at then God help us.

McGuigan appeared oblivious to the very serious implications for democracy his attitude represents. It is a retrograde step when millionaire newspaper owners can decide just what attitudes appear on the organs of communication which fashion the opinions of the people. Toryism galore here we come!

There is more. The "men of violence" through the Republican conception of law and morality are the British Army. They are the illegal terrorists and the I.R.A. is the force of law and order, democracy and justice. The "Irish News" may privately ally itself with the British conception, but that alignment must be kept solely for the editorial columns. It ought not interfere with the journalistic vocations and ethics of the newspaper staff, who ought avoid in the finished article siding with the British "Security Forces" or the Republican "Freedom Fighters." Admittedly, such a system represents a utopia for the newspaper industry. But McGuigan derides and rejects that Utopia in a true Fascist fashion.

That Right Wing nature is typical of "moderates" who to-day support the British Constitutional Bill and wear out

their shoes walking to Whitelaw's office. Included is the Labour Movement (if it can be called that), and the Trades Union leadership. At least the majority of them do not advocate direct and obvious censorship. Prudence is lacking in McGuigan.

That same letter contained other references so the following are FACTS for consideration: the Republican Movement is totally confident that the British can, this time, be defeated. They are both determined and dedicated — sure in the knowledge that they have right on their side. Recitations of past military debacles will not shake that mentality or reduce the impact of O'Leigh na hÉireann. Against the Revolution and its perpetrators, the N.U.M. and the British Government haven't a snowball's chance in hell.

Hypocrisy

Collaboration between Gardai and Northern Forces of Occupation is now at an all time high. British controlled Special Branch men have interrogated people in 26 County barracks. Recently from Clady, a British helicopter was observed to land in the Free State and its occupants had a cordial conversation with Gardai. A Strabane man (Barney Donaghey) alleged during his trial in Dublin that documents seized by Gardai had found their way to an R.U.C. Barracks in Derry. And that is but the tip of the iceberg. Imperialists are fairly optimistic that they can create a dual "security" zone, whereby this crossing of borders and secret conversations becomes official.

The Southern authorities have no qualms about handing people over to the discretion of the Whitelaw Administration. That is hypocrisy reaching unprecedented levels. Albeit unwillingly, the South accuses Britain in Strasbourg of torturing captives, recognising the corrupt, Fascist and unjust system in the North. Therefore their acquiescence in attempted extradition (what a nice word!) can only be compared to the United States handing a Jew over to Germany in 1944. But yes, it is morally and practically the exact same thing, though the physical results may not be quite so extreme.

It is a slight on Southern "democracy" that those truths can so easily be kept from the people. Are the institutions really so valuable? The answer is NO!

Internationalism
as well as
Nationalism

The British Government has landed itself in another storm by the back handed sale of jets to Spain. Not that the objections of the Parliamentary Labour Party are principled ones. Sheer domestic political capital is why Harold Wilson ineffectually rants to the working class public. The Tory Party inevitably counter attacks by quoting the Labour Party's record while in Government. This merely disgusts the electorate still further — Right. The growing popularity of the National Front in Britain must therefore alarm us all, and be in itself a denunciation of Wilsonite policies.

To get back to Spain. . . Any so-called Socialist Party which merely contents itself with opposing — while in Opposition — the sale of weaponry to "undemocratic" countries is bought by the

an
Irish
Dream

Last night while I lay fast asleep,
A dream went through my mind,
I dreamt I saw Long Kesh gates,
And all the land around,
The men I saw had formed in lines
And were marching on the road
And foremost of these marching
lines
Was a flag, Green, White and Gold.
The men they sang a song aloud
While marching on that road
And looking back, they cried out
loud

"We beat the saxon foe."
I saw a face I knew quite well
His eyes they shone with pride
And as I ran to meet him
His arms they opened wide
He held me tight against his chest
And whispered in my ear,
I am your brother Sean my love
The brother you love so dear.

And as I looked up at his eyes,
The tears they flowed down slow
And once again I heard that cry
We beat the saxon foe.
He took my hand, and we walked
along,

With other men and wives,
These men they fought for Ireland,
While some had gave their lives.

The men they marched to Newry,
The town that fought so well,
And here they said the Rosary,
For the men who fought and fell,
Then next they marched to the
Square

And here they all joined hands,
They sang away the whole night
through
The songs of their own dear land.

But when I awoke and realised,
That it was all a dream,
I sat and thought of Ireland,
Our own beloved green,
But now I know quite clearly
That this dream will once be,
The end of many unhappy years
When Ireland will once be free.

MARY McKENNA

counter-revolutionary forces. When one really gets down to it, there are few (if any) democratic countries in the world, for reasons ranging from press bias to outright suppression of workers' organisations. If a true socialist party did get into power in Britain and tried to act by cutting off all links with those countries they would merely isolate themselves and fall.

The way forward is through the education and emancipation of the native masses, accompanied by effective liaison with other movements in other countries striving for freedom. This is a rejection of the stated policy of the Labour Party, which cuts them off from "meddling in the internal affairs of other countries." That type of stand is a betrayal of Socialism. Does Labour suppose that the fact that the Spanish dictatorship is composed of people of Spanish nationality makes their fascism any the more respectable?

To other struggling peoples, the Republican Movement extends understanding and sympathy. When our local victory comes our friends abroad shall not be forgotten.

The Ashbourne Act was, of course, by no means the final settlement. The sum of money allocated was inadequate, even if all land-lords were inclined to sell.

The Land Purchase Act of 1891 provided a sum of £30,000,000. More, the time for repayment was extended to seventy years.

There was still more to come. In 1903 the Wyndham Land Purchase Act was passed. A further sum of £112,000,000 was allocated. A bonus of 12% of the selling price was included, the bonus being paid by the British Government.

Trouble still brewed till 1938. In 1933 the Fianna Fail Government of the Free State, elected in 1932 with de Valera as Prime Minister, stopped repayments of land-loans. A tariff war between the Free State and Britain commenced. Only when both sides met in 1938 and arranged a deal did things settle down.

By the terms of the agreement ports in

LOVE STORY

by Seamus Loughran



SHE LOOKED across the room at him. He had always attracted her, though, truth to tell she was a little biased about knowing him the way she did. "He was," she thought, "what a Mary would call a fine strappin' lump of a fella." She looked at his hands, they were strong, brown hands, hands that had seen hard work. "Ah, yes," she thought, "he was not afraid of hard work," never, she remembered when those hands had played with her hair, she recalled when they had handed her the first wages he had earned for her. It was on a building site and she thought now of how he had tried to cover his hands up that night, the blisters that showed through the skin from weilding the pick-axe, the way he had squared his broad shoulders when he presented her with the unopened wage packet. He was proud of it, and she was glad of it, then. He had always managed, even in the bad times to find some sort of a job, always managed to hand over some money on Friday nights. She had felt so proud of him, she remembered what the doctor had told her . . . "He is a good strong lad but his chest isn't all it should be, and he may be troubled with it when he is older."

Salute the Major

So accustomed are we to whitewash jobs, legally termed tribunals etc., being followed up by verdicts in keeping with the findings that any departure from this rule is somewhat surprising. The speech made by the coroner at the inquest into the victims of Derry's bloody Sunday was most definitely the exception to the rule. Mr. Hubert O'Neill certainly let the cat among the pigeons by his comments. We all knew that Derry's bakers dozen had been murdered by the 1st Battalion of the Parachute Regiment. Lord Widgery, acting on instructions from his employers, the British Government, returned findings which not only pleased the British Government but allayed the fears of the British general public who whilst disquieted by the news of the massacre in Derry on that awful day did not want to believe that "their boys could be guilty of such a horrible crime." Mr. O'Neill, however, has changed all that. How many other coroners will follow his example?

Counsel for the British Ministry of Defence has objected that the coroner was not in possession of all the facts. The reverse would appear to be the case. We were all aware of all the facts without the publication of the findings of the Widgery Tribunal. Findings which like all attempts to conceal the truth were blatantly contradictory.

The old verdict of "Murder by the Crown Forces" has now been replaced by an "Open Verdict." The veneer has been also stripped from this verdict and it has been exposed for what it is.

He had survived all those cold damp winters when he was out on the sites, in all sorts of weathers, he never complained. She smiled to herself, when she recalled the night he and the Da had faced each other in the hall, the first night he had come home with the smell of drink on him. The size of him compared to the Da, all the size of the Da and him trying to be so big and brave about it all, Sean just stood there and he laughed at the old fella, "Da leave me alone, I took a few and I have enough trouble with them without you starting on me, I'm a man now you know and if I wan a drink I'll take one, and if you behave yourself I might just buy you one some day, but only if you behave yourself."

It seemed only a few weeks since that night, she remembered, calling him into the kitchen and putting on her sternest face, "Sean, you are too young to be drinking that old stout, you know he won't like it, and him that has drunk so much of it himself God bless him" — he had looked at her, his head slightly tilted, trying to appear sober and him almost sick with the load of it in his guts, "Well Ma, if I can recall what I have been told it was yerself that taught me to drink!" She was dumbfounded by his remarks, and before she could say anything, he had planted a kiss on her cheek and ran out to the toilet. Drink was never mentioned again and he had stayed out of the house until he was sobered on any occasion on which he imbibed. Not that he didn't drink, he did, like all other things he done he worked hard at it.

The hands reminded her that he had once, when he was about ten, arrived home from school, ragged and bloody and put his rather grimy hand out into her lap, when he opened it he was clutching a little cheap medal. "Look Ma, my first medal, we won the league to-day, they were rough, but we were rougher!" Her own hand went instinctively to her throat, to the little silver chain that hung around it, the medal was still there. Ah! But he was a bloody terror in those days, good days, days when the Da worked when he could at the Docks, and that wasn't often alas. Still they never went hungry, and for that she was always grateful.

She also remembered the night in 1969 when he stood at the bottom of the street with that awful rifle at his shoulder as he and the rest of the boys tried to hold off the attacks from outside the area from the extremists, he had shouted at her that night, the first time he had ever done so, "Ma, will you and the rest of them women get the hell out of here and go home, someone of you will be shot" she had done as she was told and she and the Da had sat at home for two days and two nights worrying about him, needlessly, he appeared home again as if he had just been down the road. She knew from then on that he was connected but she never mentioned it nor did he, Da said nothing.

Sean disappeared from time to time but each week either he or one of his mates arrived round with a couple of quid to help them out. The worst night happened in August 1971 when the whole area was alive to the sound of gun fire and bombing, she had prayed hard that night, and after she had woken off, she was awakened by the drone of Da as he recited his Rosary, the arrests of men all seemed like a nightmare, a nightmare which was actually happening, of Sean there was no sign and she waited on patiently praying and asking God for his deliverance. He turned up out of the blue one evening and chatted away to them as if he had not been gone. Throughout those terrible times she was to see him on and off but never for long. She looked again at him and the size of him, the slight mark above his left eye was hardly noticeable, he was such a fine lad.

Se sensed rather than heard the people in the hall, she arose from her seat and looked out of the window, the street was crowded, the sun was going down and the shadows grew longer, "Fine night they are getting for it, anyway," she looked at him again and sighed. The priest was coming in the door, she bent and kissed him on the cheek and then on his brown hands, "God bless you Sean my son, she whispered. The priest was coming across the room towards her, she looked up at the picture of the Sacred Heart on the wall and murmured "Lord thou art hard on mothers, we suffer in their coming and in their going"

Dublin

After their work at the demonstrations here in Belfast it came as no great surprise to us, though with a great deal of delight when the Seamus Steele Accordion Band were invited to play at a Republican rally held at the G.P.O. in Dublin. Many tributes were paid to the band and their playing was greatly appreciated by both the crowd and the speakers at the rally. Mr. Ruari O'Brady, president of Sinn Féin reminded the band of the proud name they bore and urged them never to forget the name Seamus Steele and all he had stood for.

The band was overwhelmed by their reception and the hospitality they received but two sour notes were struck during their stay. In the first instance an ambulance came hurtling along O'Connell Street during the rally and without either warning nor slackening of speed drove right into and through the crowd smashing three of the band's accordions as it did so. Had the driver of this vehicle sounded the klaxton a clear path would have been made for him. Garda patrols on the fringes of the crowd made no effort to curb this maniacal driving. As Hughie McShane the band organiser commented to us, "it was bad enough three accordions being smashed but it would have been a thousand times worse if this madman had injured any of the children. What would I have done then?" he asked.

The second sour note was struck when one of the girls in the band was attacked and beaten by two female layabouts in Henry Street. Being no softie the same young miss gave back as much as she was taking. However, this incident led to the destruction of a £22 band uniform.

However, the band were very pleased with their stay in Dublin and as one member said with regard to the two unsavoury incidents, "What else do you expect from pigs but grunts?"

Successful Glasgow Rally

The Irish Defence Committee, Glasgow, held a very successful anti-Internment meeting on August 9th in the Dixon Halls, Glasgow. The speakers included Will Reece, Chairman of the Coventry Seven Defence Committee and Michael O'Gallcobaire, Sinn Fein Provisionals, Birmingham.

The meeting unanimously condemned Internment and reaffirmed their support for Irish self determination. The meeting was well attended by both English and Scottish Nationalist groups who are against Internment.

(We are pleased to report that *Republican News* is on sale again in Glasgow - Editor).

GET THIS MAN OUT

WE CONGRATULATE the Acting-Editor of "An Phoblacht" and his staff for managing to bring out the paper week after week, despite the arrest and imprisonment of EAMON MacTHOMAS, the Editor and well known Republican who succeeded in changing the paper from a monthly to a weekly and paying off a large debt.

We urge our readers to buy "An Phoblacht" as often as possible and we join with the Acting-Editor in calling upon supporters of the Republican Movement to advertise in Republican papers whenever possible.

Eamon MacThomais was jailed by the Dublin regime because of his work for "An Phoblacht." We have no doubt about that. The Leinster House politicians are having their revenge on him because he wrote the truth. They are trying to intimidate him and other journalists. They are wasting their time with Eamon MacThomais. They will never intimidate him or Republican journalists like him.

Writers and journalists who value the concept of a free press should band to-

gether now in defence of that ideal. If this is not done quickly, more men of the calibre of Eamon MacThomais will be seized and put in prison to prevent the truth being published.

Strong efforts should be made now to secure the release of Eamon MacThomais Editor of "An Phoblacht" in order to make journalism and publishing a little safer and more effective in protecting what little is left of democracy in Ireland.

BRITS MOVE THEIR WAR FURTHER SOUTH

British helicopters are now over-flying the 26 Counties without interference or protest from the Free State authorities.

And residents in Louth and County Monaghan are hopping mad at the almost daily, low-level flights by B.A. helicopters which they say are intended to intimidate them.

One farmer near Courtbane intends to take legal action because of reduced milk yield caused, he says, by the persistent terrifying of his animals by the encroaching aircraft.

A member of the Irish Creamery Milk Suppliers Association in the area had described the situation as "scandalous."

Several times in the last few months, B.A. airborne patrols have landed well inside the 26 Counties and assaulted and questioned local people.

The failure of the Free State authorities to take any action to prevent such occurrences or to make any protest about the incidents is believed to have encouraged Brit leaders to move the war zone into the area, and uniformed B.A. men are now supplementing the plain-clothes S.A.S. terror gangs which have bombed several 26 Counties towns.



Some of the demonstrators in Luton town centre

S.A.S MURDER GANG KILLED DOCTOR'S SON

An open verdict has been returned on the 14-year old victim of the S.A.S. 'Murder Gang.'

RORY GORMLEY, the son of Mater Hospital surgeon, Mr. Peter Gormley, was killed when his father's car was machine-gunned in Downing St., of the Shankill Road last November.

His father had played a leading role in exposing the tortures inflicted on Republican prisoners at Hollywood.

A short time before assassinating young Gormley, the S.A.S. had struck at the family of the other surgeon who had testified about their torture methods, Mr. J. P. Lane.

Mr. Lane's university student son was kidnapped by the S.A.S. and taken to Glencairn where he was tortured and shot dead.

The travels of Aunt Sally and William

EDUCATIONAL TOUR OF IRELAND



Auntie, last week you promised to take me to see Leinster House, why are we in a black taxi going to Ballymurphy?

Well, William dear, the reason is simple. In Leinster House you would have met a lot of phoneyes — phoney Irishmen and phoney politicians. I fear you would have learned nothing of real value from them. In Ballymurphy, however you will meet some real people, the salt of the earth, and you will hear how for over twenty years they have endured life in what was commonly called a "problem" estate, though the "problem" did not stem from the people themselves, but from the deliberate policies of the ruling unionist/orange regime. We can see in Ballymurphy to-day, permanent, visible evidence of State prejudice, discrimination, neglect and downright incompetence. Notice, as you walk along, the moss and grass growing in the gutters, the many open joints, and the broken down garden fences.

But Auntie, why should this happen specially in Ballymurphy?

As we go along the Glenalina Road, dear, I shall endeavour to explain. Ballymurphy was one of the first major housing developments in Belfast after the war. It was thrown up haphazard with shoddy materials, and unskilled labour, and, it was no co-incidence that on its completion in early 1950 the Ministry of Health ordered the closing of wartime hutments formerly used by troops, and, in which people who had been bombed out of their homes were now squatting. These people were mostly Catholics.

Forced to find accommodation for them quickly, the Estates Committee re-housed a number of them in Ballymurphy. These people, the little people of no property, through no fault of their own, rapidly became the scapegoats of society. To them were attributed all of the vices, and none of the virtues, of good tenants, and the Northern Ireland Housing Trust in a deliberate policy and aided by the Belfast Corporation made Ballymurphy a clearing house for Belfast Catholics.

The Northern Ireland Housing Trust had no hesitation in housing houses in Ballymurphy to their worst rent payers from other estates, and the estate became in effect a Catholic refugee camp. This policy succeeded in keeping large numbers of Catholic families in permanent ghetto conditions, since the estate was planned with no recreational facilities whatsoever, no play spaces, no Churches, no community centres, and no schools. This, in an estate of 672 households.

Faced with these extreme conditions, most of the gallant people struggled to

bring up their families decently, but they were held in utmost contempt, and due mainly to the tendency of the press to attribute the misbehaviour, of neighbouring estates, to Ballymurphy, the entire estate got a bad name with shop-keepers, police, publicans and rent-collectors. Employment was non-existent. No advance factories or industries for this area, by order! Even to have a Ballymurphy address was an additional handicap to a Catholic seeking employment in Belfast. At the last survey, the total male unemployment was THREE TIMES THE BELFAST AND NORTHERN IRELAND rates. William, dear, you will be staggered to hear that the total male unemployment figure is 27.2 PER CENT. The figure for the rest of Belfast is 8 per cent.

Auntie one can appreciate that it came naturally to the bigoted orange/unionist

Belfast Corporation to see Ballymurphy as a "good enough" place for Catholics to live, but surely the Catholic clergy took an active part in trying to make life more tolerable for the residents. After all, you told me at the beginning that most of the people in Ballymurphy are members of the Catholic Church.

This to me, dear William, is one of the more serious aspects of the whole situation. Taking the Establishment side, the Catholic Church largely ignored the residents of Ballymurphy, and between 1952 until 1971 their degree of involvement in the affairs of the estate was practically nil.

However, William dear, enough for today. Next week I shall discuss with you the role of the Catholic Church, the role of the Tenants Association, and the role of the Schools.

Luton Three

At a meeting at the Co-op Hall in Northampton, over 50 people from Northampton, Luton and Bletchley, unanimously condemned the recent arrests of Irish Republicans in this country, especially the trumped-up charges against Joe Gallagher in Northampton, and the three men in Luton, ("The Luton Three")

We express our determination to build a campaign of support to free these men and expose the injustices of these cases.

We call for a picket outside the court in Luton on Friday 31st August, and in Northampton on the 30th August.

PEADAR DE PLACA/TONY LEWIS SINN FEIN CUMANN

HARASSMENT IN CLONARD AREA

Anti-Pope slogans apology

Yet again, the Brits in Derry admitted this week that they were "pretty certain" that their soldiers had been responsible for painting what they described as . . . "anti-Pope" and "pro-Welsh" slogans on walls in the Bogside. The slogans were discovered this week on walls near the Bogside Inn and in Meenan Square, and as soon as they were seen the Brits authorities offered apologies to the local residents and set about obliterating their own work. Comment from an army spokesman: "This was a silly and stupid thing to do!.. (WHAT CAN WE SAY?)

BLUESHIRT

Picketers shouted "Blueshirt," at Cooney, the Free State Minister for Justice, last Tuesday night when he attended a dinner for American delegates of the International Police Association, at the Cill Dara Hotel, in Kill, Co. Kildare

The hotel was picketed by twelve members of the Prisoners Rights Organisation, some of whom carried placards demanding better conditions for jail inmates.

The protesters distributed leaflets claiming that prisons in the 26

Counties were being run on 18th century conditions.

Cooney's contempt for the Prisoners Union in Portlaoise and his attempts to smash it makes many believe that his radical noises when A large force of Gardai were on duty outside the hotel. This reflected concern for Cooney's safety in view of the growing public contempt for the regime of which he is one of the most hated members. he was in Opposition would not be turned into practice when in Government.

Since the arrival of the Royal Green Jackets in the Clonard area 4 weeks ago, there has been a dramatic escalation in the now familiar pattern of harassment, peculiar to minority areas throughout the Six Counties.

This campaign of intensified harassment climaxed on Monday morning, 27th August, 4.15 am. when Mrs. O'Riordan from Oranmore Street was savagely assaulted by a member of a foot patrol belonging to the 3rd Royal Green Jackets, who were raiding her home. Having insulted her by references to treatment for a non-existent psychological condition, and after making various physical threats, the soldier in charge, (who introduced himself as 'Smith'), without any provocation, struck Mrs. O'Riordan with a rifle butt. Mrs. O'Riordan now has a fractured jaw as a result of the blow.

This is no isolated incident however. There is quite obviously a concerted attempt at blanket harassment in the area, with anyone on the streets a legitimate target for arrest. This Cumann is appalled by British Army activity in this area, which, if pursued, will undoubtedly result in the present discontent felt by the people manifesting itself in a more physical expression.



the liam mac page

● NEWTOWNABBEY POLICE

FOR MANY MONTHS Catholic families around the Rathcoole and Rathfern areas have been pleading with the RUC in Newtownabbey to give them intimidation certificates so that they could get the Housing Executive to give them transfers to other districts, these families who have had to live through months of having their homes attacked, windows broken and slogans painted around their front doors and windows, pleaded with the RUC for pity which they did not receive. . . . McCluskey, SDLP Assembly man has a book full of cases. Many of the families couldn't face the continuous intimidation so they moved out to become squatters in Catholic areas where at least they felt safe. . . . these are the people condemned by VICTOR BLEASE in his recent television interview.

But surprise, surprise, suddenly the RUC seemed to become human and many families suddenly found themselves with a fully signed certificate which the Housing Executive accepted willingly and gave them homes in other districts where they could live in peace. The reason why the Newtownabbey police changed their minds after being pleaded with for so long was very simple. . . . they heard rumours of allegations in a confidential survey made by the Community Relations Organisation. . . . the rumours suggested that the survey had proof of the RUC having links with the local UDA and had refused certificates to intimidated families because of those links.

So in order to be able to deny the allegations when the report would be issued the RUC changed their tactics. . . . I know personally one Catholic family who have pleaded since last March — suddenly receiving a certificate a few weeks ago after they had given up all hope. I don't think the RUC and the Brits will come out too well in the report, even allowing for the many certificates being handed out this past few weeks.

● THE FLAT EARTHERS

THERE HAS BEEN so many permutations being formed by the break-up of the Orange-Unionist Party — from Alliance Party to VUPP that one could be forgiven into thinking that it wasn't possible for the gangsters to form any more. . . . but they still surface and the latest is a real stinker, that reminds one of the Flat Earthers. It is called the East Antrim Loyalist Front, covering Rathcoole, Monkstown, Carrickfergus and Larne. . . . its leaders JOHN WATSON a Rathcoole man, who lost his deposit in the recent local election, employed as a foreman in Rosses Mill, Falls Road, CLLR. ERNIE BURTON. . . . you remember him, the 'Republican News' gave his record of petty crime a few months ago, two other mercenaries, CLLR. McKEE and DENNIS HERRON, make-up the foursome.

And what form of political set-up do they want? Read on my friends. . . . Withdrawal from the United Nations. . . . Repatriation of all coloured immigrants, Expulsion of all coloured countries from the Commonwealth. . . . the right of all 'loyal' citizens to carry arms. . . . the annihilation of all disloyal citizens. And so on and so on. . . . but what is more interesting than the above wild points of policy is that they are affiliated to the Empire Loyalists and the National Fascist Front organisations in England. And why have they broken from the other madmen in the 'loyalist' camp? Well they point out that the other organisations are not honest enough for them, you see the local UDA and the other gangsters have been caught on running rackets so they broke with them. . . . methinks the mass of the people are in for another round of racketeering from the old gang with a new title. . . .

● JOURNALISM (ONE)

"THE SCANDALISED out-cry against the judgement of the Derry Coroner during the week on the deaths of the 13 in Derry on Bloody Sunday. . . . The audacity of him, spoiling everything, destroying with one verdict all the government propaganda about the black and white and the 'goodies' and the 'badies'. For who after all in the course of the Six County conflict can claim to have committed 13 sheer, unadulterated murders in such short space of time as the British Army did in Derry on that day? The scales are beginning to balance." (CLAUD GORDON 'Sunday Press 26/8/73).

● JOURNALISM (TWO)

SCRATCH A LIBERAL UNIONIST and what do you find but just an ordinary bigoted Unionist. They never change. Take that good Liberal journalist ALF McCREARY, who receives his bread and butter plus a damned good living for keeping to the 'liberal' line of the Belfast Telegraph. "It is too easy to dismiss the complaints from viewers about the IRA song, 'The Jolly Ploughboy', on UTV's 'Pig and Whistle' as another example of Ulster provincialism. . . . Yet those people who complained to UTV had a point. . . . We cannot be sure what a coroner will say to exacerbate feelings, but the broadcasting media can take measures to avoid unnecessary provocation." (Belfast Telegraph 15/8/73).

● JOURNALISM (THREE)

ANOTHER JOURNALIST we in the Republican Movement know only too well for the hate he engenders in his newspaper for anything Irish. He is of course the one and only COWAN WATSON, editor of the Belfast Newsletter. Cowan it seems is getting very cynical in his old age. When the latest unemployment figures were issued last week, he commented as follows: "There is always a sigh of relief when official figures register an improvement in this long-standing problem area. It is unfortunate, however, that the improvement is one that must be linked closely with the ravages of terrorism. There is scarcely a day that passes that does not leave a trail of wanton damage, and with it a mound of work to be done on repairs or, as is so often the case, rebuilding. Inevitably, the latest unemployment statistics show that there has been a major drop in the jobless connected with the construction industry. It is a state of affairs which is unlikely to change for a long time." (Newsletter 25/8/73). It seems even Cowan is beginning to have doubts about those hand outs the Brits keep on issuing daily.

● PROGRESS?

"AT THIS STAGE let us congratulate Messrs FARRELL and CANAVAN in an exercise well carried out and with a reward for their pains — Freedom." Whitelaw used the law of the land, his law, for a political platform and released 100 prisoners, non-political, to appease the minority on the second year of internment. A very clever move, but who did it fool, no one but himself! Let us remind Whitelaw of one main fact and it is this. . . . Sooner or later all political prisoners will be released and it might as well be sooner than later. We restate again, that only the elected members of the Assembly and the leaders of the groups at war can bring peace to this country and the sooner he allows this to happen can peace come to Ulster. Everyone is ready to talk, so let's begin now. NO ENGLISHMAN will solve the Ulster question, it will only be Ulstermen that will bring peace. (Loyalist News 25/8/73).

● THE BIGOT

NOW THAT HE has got the job of Presiding Officer of the Six County Assembly NAT MINFORD is trying to sell himself as a reform bigot. I like the way he is making excuses for the many lapses he made during his political career as a hard-line Unionist. "I was leaving Clifton Street Orange Hall after an election meeting when unfortunately I made a remark: 'God save the King and to hell with the Pope,' unfortunately certain people reported it to the Press and it was made public. I should never have made such a remark. Then at another election meeting in 1969 during the Bannside-by-election I made a slip of the tongue and stated I stood for a Protestant Parliament for a Protestant people. . . . It really was a slip of the tongue and I apologised for it a few days later when I realised the mistake I made." (Sunday News 26/8/73). Sorry, Nat we won't buy your excuses. You are still a bigot!

● TORY LEADER

"IMAGINE IF IN THE present disorder in the United States political scene, PRESIDENT NIXON were to announce that he would attend the funeral of the Chief of the Ku Klux Klan — What an uproar there would be. Well TED HEATH is about to attend the memorial service of a former Chief of the Irish version of the Klan — 'I don't employ Catholics' Brookeborough. . . . (Ulick O'Connor, Sunday Independent 26/8/73).

● LOYALTY?

"SOME DAYS AGO two Fine Gael prosecutors, had a young ex-internee jailed for pointing what appeared to be a gun at Guards. PATRICK CRINNION pointed a gun at the Guards who arrested him, but he was not charged with this offence. Had he been so charged he might have received a four year sentence and the British Secret Service could not have then de-briefed him. . . . There is something rotten in the Irish Special Branch. Basically what is wrong is that its loyalty may not be to our State, but to the Secret Service of Great Britain. (The Senator, Sunday World, 26/8/73).

● THE TRAVELLER!

"MENTIONING THE NORTH. . . reminds me of Garret's visit to Belfast. He said he would not speak to those responsible for killings. He meant the Provos. But he is happy to speak to British killers, torturers and such. I agree that such persons must be spoken to and I do not know whether the Provos would speak to our Foreign Affairs Minister. But double thinking could be dangerous (The Senator, Sunday World 26/8/73).