



REPUBLICAN NEWS

"VOICE OF REPUBLICAN ULSTER"

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SEND ALL QUISLINGS TO COVENTRY

THE ASSEMBLY ELECTION RESULTS have been portrayed by the politicians and the news media as a rejection of the Provisionals' campaign by the vast majority of the anti-Unionist people of the North. It is, of course, in their interests to make such statements, but an examination of the results shows quite clearly that this claim is false.

It was suggested prior to the election that the anti-Unionist people of the North would massively support the ballot box thereby rejecting the armed struggle to achieve the freedom of this country. In fact, what happened was a rejection of the ballot box as a means of achieving anything by many thousands of our people. Of a total anti-Unionist electorate of around 380,000 approximately 195,000 chose the ballot box, leaving 185,000 who did not vote. 185,000 people could under no circumstances be considered as a small minority. Indeed, we are pleased that so many of our people at least passively, support the aims of the Republican Movement.

Of the more extravagant claims, is that made by the S.D.L.P. who now say that they, and they alone, have a mandate from the anti-Unionist people to speak on their behalf. The total number of first preference votes that this Party obtained was just under 150,000, that is 39% of the total anti-Unionist vote, 61% of our people did not give them the mandate.

In other words, the SDLP represent a minority of a minority in Whitelaw's new Stormont.

In West Belfast 70% of our people rejected the claims of the SDLP to speak on their behalf and 55% chose not to support any candidate at all!

It must also be realised that many votes cast for one or other of the anti-Unionist parties was not as a protest against the IRA campaign but to prevent Unionist representation in Republican areas.

This view was also expressed by TIM PAT COOGAN, Editor of the "Irish Press" who on the BBC programme "Edition" said that the votes cast for the SDLP were not necessarily anti-IRA votes but anti-Unionist votes.

Indications that the support for the Republican Movement is as strong as ever can be gauged from the attendance at Bodinstown last month (the largest ever), the massive support for the Easter parades, circulation of this paper (in excess of 20,000 and growing), and most important, from the fact that the English army has not defeated, nor shows any signs of defeating the Irish Republican Army.

We are so confident that this support is still forthcoming that we challenge the English politicians, in particular those of the

61 PER CENT REJECT SDLP

SDLP, to hold a referendum to determine once and for all the support among the minority of the North for the aims of the Republican Movement and not to use other inappropriate yardsticks to estimate this.

Everyone who helps in any way the English puppet Assembly to work should be sent to Coventry, Don't even bid them the time of day. Let us call a spade a spade. Every member who participates in the English puppet regime is a Quisling and Collaborator and must be treated as such.

If you would not deliver a bottle of milk to an English Army post, you should not deliver it to Fitt, Devlin or Napier. This may seem drastic, but drastic measures are now necessary. These Quislings are as bad if not worse, than the individual English soldier.

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The social welfare, the standard of living, and the rate of betterment of the people of Ireland leaves a lot to be desired. This is not because Ireland is a poor country — far from it — but the wealth created in Ireland by her people is controlled by foreign capitalism and is therefore not being used to benefit the Irish working class.

This can be seen all over the country in both of the partitionist states in Ireland. In the North, the most attractive incentive to investing Entrepreneurs from foreign countries, is the deliberate upkeep of a large and cheap labour pool i.e. the unemployed. The Six County state is one of the most conservative reactionary and capitalistic states in the world. It is technologically advanced yet many of its people live in slum dwellings which are unfit for human habitation.

There are too, the effects of tangible Imperialism in the North. These aspects include Internment, Concentration Camps, Soldierly and Ghastapo R.U.C. types, with a free hand to repress people in working class ghettos, and of course corrupt and biased courts.

Built into the northern state is a system of permanent one-party rule entirely dedicated to the con-

tinuance of the status quo. This, of course, is an intolerable situation to true Republicans and therefore we fight, in many ways, to end the rotten set up.

The Southern state, is not any better. It has tied its economy to that of the old Imperialist Master, Britain; by the Anglo Irish Free Trade Agreement and lately by entering the Common Market with the British. Its government has given away the wealth of the country (mines, fisheries, factories etc.) to foreign thieves who can now exploit the Irish quite legally and not, as in the North, at the point of a gun. This too is an intolerable set-up and must be done away with.

Now if Britain were the only force in the ranks of those who would keep Irish people in subjugation and slavery, then the job of freeing ourselves would be comparatively easy.

Unfortunately Britain has allies in some strange and not so very strange places. For example, there are those who would call themselves Republicans and who at the

same time could not do British policy more good, if they tried. I refer to people who can call themselves socialist, anti-unionist and republican yet they work to maintain the union by partaking in British controlled Elections.

Let's get a few facts straight. There is no hope for socialism in Ireland until sectarianism is completely eliminated from our society. Sectarianism is the basis of the Six County state — it is the material from which it was built. They have a mutual dependence on one another, without one, the other cannot exist. Therefore, when one works towards the continuance of that state then one is working for the continuance of sectarianism.

With sectarianism, there can be no working class unity of any lasting. This has been shown in the past when workers united on purely economic or social issues (as in 1932-34 in Belfast for example). Therefore, to bring about working class unity, we must destroy sectarianism. To destroy sectarianism we must destroy the Six County State.

To do that we must use whatever are the minimum exertions of the methods available to us.

To call such activity sectarian is a slander and a lie. Such talk deriles even James Connolly himself, who realised that the creation of two separate statelets in Ireland would release "a carnival of reaction throughout the whole country", which would hurt Ireland for many years. Connolly also realised that the national question would have to be resolved first in order to even attempt to bring about a socialist Ireland.

These then are the aims of the Republican movement; to end sectarianism in the North by destroying the Six County state and by driving the dividers of the Irish people from our shores for ever. This having solved the national question, we shall build towards the Democratic Socialist Republic as envisaged in Eire Nua. We shall not work for the continuance of sectarianism by allowing the British to go on ruling here.

And we shall not desist from this struggle for freedom, justice and equality by heeding pathetic platitudes from sham socialists and sham Republicans and indeed, sham Irishmen.



2,000
MARCH TO
DEMAND
RELEASE OF
POLITICAL
HOSTAGES.



DID
YOU
MARCH?



REPUBLICAN VIEWPOINT

By our
Strabane ReporterMasters at
Work !!!!!

The U.T.V. Assembly Platform run up to the Assembly elections showed V.U.P.P., D.U.P. and other party leaders at their best in masterly evasion. It was easy for them to avoid being shown up as hypocritical frauds. Once they arrived at a political conclusion from greed the manufacture of non-existent principles as the public relations sop created a seemingly endless reservoir of untruthful clichés. Just how many of the electorate were fooled by Craig's references to democracy or Faulkner's attempts to show how he was, in reality, a principled victim of circumstances, who would not allow his own personal position to influence his politics?

The Sunday Times Insight Teams' book — Ulster — quotes Harold Wilson as saying of him: "I'm not saying Faulkner can dance on the head of a pin, but he can certainly manœuvre in a very small area." Or, in plain man's language, if he got the lowest vote in an election he would say he was doing well — and go on to prove it!

Despite his shrewdness he is still the victim of unkind jokes. Now, it seems, he has hired a firm of private detectives to track down his followers.

I cannot resist the temptation to point out his war record either — oh yes, he has one. What can you expect from a man always mentioning the Six Counties' war effort? Yep, when his "countrymen" were out fighting the Nazis, Brian was — managing his father's shirt factory in Buncrana!

'Nauseating'

It was a particularly nauseating experience to witness the inauguration of Erskine Childers as the Fourth President of the Twenty Six County Statelet. Here was a man deemed by the media the first citizen of the "country", yet he could not even speak the first official language of that "country." It is a sad reflection on the Irishness of Leinster House that the Irish Language is no longer compulsory learning, and that a man who holds a lucrative office, surrounded with romantic assertions from his backers, can only use a foreign tongue.

Erskine Childers has not proven himself worthy of any honour from the Irish People. Indeed, most in the 26 Counties must think that also, since he was elected on a minority vote. His father died for the Republic

but this apology for a man came to Ireland after many years abroad, and then joined a Right Wing Party. It was that party which created the ridiculous position over our mineral wealth, whereby the profits go to the U.S.A. tax free. It was that party which maintains "free enterprise" and a society where 80% of the industry is foreign owned" and the rest by Irish capitalist bourgeoisie. As a member of Fianna Fail, Childers must take part of the blame for the gradual negation of the principles enshrined in the 1916 Proclamation principles which only a few groups remain true to.

Now the working class people of the 26 Counties, many of whom live in squalor, must support him with finance undreamed of by people who spend their working lives slaving for a pittance.

There were references to Childers as the President of Ireland. If that were the case, why were people from the 6 Counties not allowed vote? Or is "Ireland" only made up of 26 Counties in Leinster House eyes?

It is reminiscent of statements calling Leinster House Dail Eireann. It is bloody disgraceful. Some Dail Eireann, when Northern representatives cannot speak in it.

There is a revolution in process in Ireland. The first necessary part of it entails the destruction of the 6 County Satellite. When that job is completed, the Republican Movement will turn their attention to the demise of Leinster House and the political parties which maintain it.

Know your
History

An "Irish News" editorial on 26th June, 1973 said that after the Civil War, Eamon de Valera showed that he had learned the futility of violence. That editorial showed the twisted thinking that only Liberalistic Toryism is capable of.

Throughout the Civil War de Valera wanted an end to fighting and its replacement by the type of "political action" he later committed Fianna Fail to. His latent opportunist instincts only publicly asserted themselves when the War was over: they were there throughout it.

De Valera's activities after the Civil War were tinged with violence. When he became Prime Minister of the Irish Free State, he kept an army, which carried guns and on more than one occasion used them. He let hunger strikers die, and banned

the I.R.A., knowing it could lead to violence. A man of peace? A man who learned the futility of violence?

The same editorial quoted someone, with assenting approval, as saying that de Valera totally dismantled the Treaty by politics, achieving more by political action than the I.R.A. did by violence. Did de Valera dismantle the Treaty? We think not.

About the only real affront to the Irish Free State was the 1949 Republic of Ireland Act, which declared the Free State a Republic. And that largely came about by London's weakening on dominion status, rather than by de Valera's politicking. De Valera also failed to get rid of Partition. We doubt if he even tried — when he ended the "Economic War" with Britain the agreement with the British Government tinged on the Treaty, but made no mention of Partition. In any event, the over-riding objective of the Treaty was the survival of British Imperialism and that objective, though crumbling, is still intact. Its coming failure was not through de Valera's actions.

The only violence de Valera was alienated from was violence against the British Crown Forces by Oglagh na hEireann, and he was against that through a fear, a leaning towards S.D.L.P. type meanandering, rather than through some moral awakening.

Politics are all right in their proper place. But when they are backed by the mailed fist, by internment or possible internment, by demands for a virtual surrender, by torture, repression, GERRYMANDER and powerless bodies, by liberalism rather than Connollyite social extremism, they are only the means for further enslaving the people, of getting more labour out of them and smuggling the industrial wealth of the country across the sea. Alone with the P.D., the Republican Movement refuse to aid and abet such heinous and bluntly criminal ploys of a blood-soaked British Imperial Dictatorship.

WAR
JOKE

(With acknowledgement to "The Kilburn Provo," organ of the Roger Casement Sinn Fein Cumann, Kilburn, London).

This is number two in our series of jokes from the streets of occupied Ireland. As we said last week, these jokes are not meant to poke fun at one side or the other, but rather to show that humour does play a part in our struggle, on both sides.

Tommy Herron, Commander of the U.D.A. walked into a Catholic Pub on the Falls Road and went up to the bar. "I'll have a pint of the best," says Tommy.

The barman pulled him a pint and handed it over. Tommy stood supping his pint slowly and giving the place a good looking over. "Nice place you've got here," he says to the barman, "tell you what, I'm having a party tonight give me one bottle of everything that you've got in the place."

The barman looks a bit surprised, but he doesn't want trouble so he goes off, gets one bottle of everything he has and piles it on the bar. Eventually he comes back and says "Well, Mr. Herron, that's one bottle of everything, but it's going to cost you a bomb," I know," says Tommy, lifting a box up off the floor, "I have it here with me"!!!

HOLIDAYS

The REPUBLICAN NEWS will NOT be published on 9th, 11th or 14th July, because of printing staff Summer Holidays.

Publication will RE-COMMENCE with EVENING EDITION on MONDAY, 16th JULY. Weekly Edition will be published on Saturday, 21st July.

LETTERS

Dear Sir,

I'm sure Westminster and so-called loyalists are grateful to Dublin Minister of Justice Cooney, for his stringent measures against the Irish Republican Army. No doubt his boss Cosgrove will applaud loudly.

It makes many of us enforced immigrants wonder who our enemies are. We ordinary people always understood the reasoning behind Faulkner, Craig, Paisley, Taylor, Chi-chi, etc. However, we find it most baffling when similiar manoeuvres are perpetrated by so-called Irish politicians.

We often debate among ourselves as to how much vested interest these guys have in Britain. They seem to have completed the circle. The Munich Deal seems to have been all one-sided.

Are any steps being taken by Cooney & Co. to ensure that Willie reciprocates by putting the blocks on U.D.A., U.V.F., U.F.F., Tartans, L.A.W., S.A.S., Paras, etc. The recent stabbings would indicate otherwise.

We Irish people have had a bellyfull of crook politicians. It's high time a Watergate started in Dublin. Very soon, it may be Cooney's turn to immigrate. He could easily find himself in company with O'Brien, Lynch, Faulkner, etc.

History would know it as: "The flight of the Gombeen Men."

*"Wally,"
Erdington, Birmingham.*

A chara,

For some time I have been trying to find time to write to you and give you some words of encouragement on the work which you are doing. Firstly, I would ask you in God's and Ireland's name what we could all do in the way of that little extra piece of work which would hasten the final day of Ireland's liberation?

I pose the same question of all of your readers in the 26 Counties Slave State. Does your conscience tell you that you are doing all that you can to help our beleaguered comrades, North and South? Could you not pull that little extra something out of the bag?

There are those of us in the South who passionately want to help. There are men of my generation who have spent our lives in the service of Ireland, who actually do not belong to any branch of the Republican Movement, who have spent years in jails, and who have borne wounds on their bodies, in their minds and souls who would, if they had thirty lives to live all

over again, would gladly go through it all over again.

One man I know who was born in London and came home for the 1916 Rising, belonged to the "Wild Geese" Company which was privileged to lead the charge into the GPO. He was wounded, interned, and was again interned in 1922 by little Liam's owl Fella, was forced to emigrate again to England (as I was myself) where it was my privilege to first make his acquaintance and that of his family: He is still alive, God bless him - Ernie Nunan. He told the Free Staters, as a number of us did, to stuff their medals, pensions and service certificates. We need no certificates to remind us that we are Irishmen and separatists. The marks on our minds and bodies are sufficient proof of that.

Now, I am no longer physically able to sight a rifle or even run for a bus, although I am still strong enough, (and have to) to do a fair day's work. But my pen is at your service at any time.

If I can help in any way, just tell me through your columns, or any other way you see fit. I am not too well off but I enclose £3.00 for your Press Fund.

God Bless and strengthen your hands and hearts in this final struggle. "For how can man die better, than facing fearful odds"? Which reminds me of another quotation, "Greater love than this no man hath, than to lie down his life for his friend."

Republicans have, down the years, been giving their lives for their enemies as well as their friends. We have always had countless enemies among our fellow-countrymen whose children and grand-children will live in a free, gaelic, united Ireland.

God speed the day when Southern steel and Northern Iron will finally drive the last of our oppressors from our shores in which we can all live in dignity and peace.

*Mise le meas,
"Sean-Duine".
Baile Ath Cliath.*

P.S. Put up the price of "Republican News" to 5p.

For Sale.

WHY NOT SELL THAT ARTICLE THROUGH THE REPUBLICAN NEWS... and reach 60,000 Readers!

	Weekly	Evening
1" single col.	£1.50	£1.00
1" double col.	3.00	2.00
Half page	40.00	20.00
Full page	80.00	35.00
Classifieds	3p per word	3p per word

Changed Times....

Since its foundation in 1903 Sinn Fein has altered a lot, along with accompanying Republican organisations. The Sinn Fein aspect was dominated by Arthur Griffith, an arch Conservative who eventually supported the Treaty.

When Connolly and Larkin organised the great Dublin Lock Out in 1913 Griffith degraded the cause of the workers, and allied himself firmly with the bosses. Some signatories of the 1916 Proclamation (which had nothing to do with the then Sinn Fein) were totally ignorant of the importance of a social revolution to follow the national one. Tom Clarke made it clear that if, by some miracle, the 1916 Rising succeeded he had not wish to linger on in public life - though his age might well have been the primary factor. It is also a reasonable supposition that the socialistic language of much of the Proclamation was put there more at the vociferous insistence of James Connolly than anything else.

Griffith was still propounding the "Dual Monarchy solution," the basis of which was that British and Irish monopoly capitalists would jointly rule the Empire. However, those ideas were omitted from the changed Sinn Fein constitution, which emerged. The document pledged Sinn Fein to the goal of a Republic and stated that the people would decide by referendum their form of social system.

This rather negative standpoint reflected after the 1918 General Election. Sinn Fein had no social policy, and some acts of the embryo Republican Movement were pro-Conservative and an outright attack on workers' protests.

Michael Collins (hardly surprisingly, in view of his pro-Treaty stand) was a devout anti-Socialist. He was instrumental in watering down proposals submitted by the Labour Party to Sinn Fein. He was lately perfectly summed up by 80 year old Peadar O'Donnell, who left the Republican Movement in the 'thirties in an attempt to create a social feeling in the Movement. He said that Collins had the idea that Irish Freedom amounted to a withdrawal of British troops and the raising of the Green Flag over Dublin Castle. This attitude was in direct contrast to the section of the Proclamation which declared "the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland."

To-day, the Republican Movement recognises the necessity of the clauses in the Proclamation removed from parliamentary independence. A radical governmental and social

policy exists. The Movement takes its place in the fight for social justice while recognising that full social justice can only come after national liberation. It is recognised that the replacement of British monopoly capitalism by Irish monopoly capitalism is a worthless cause. Irish Republicanism is more than a romantic, revivalist cult.

It is the means of attaining full Irish nationhood. And serving totally the material and spiritual well being of the Irish People.

Quotes

QUOTES (With acknowledgement to Unionist Research Department Brief No. 2 - 19th June, 1973)

Wm. Craig - 23rd June, 1972 (Evening Standard)

"There are 100,000 men ready to be mobilised . . . there are 9 or 10 militant armed groups spread over Ulster. I have now come to accept violence and would approve of force being used."

Enniskillen - 16th June, 1972 (Belfast Telegraph)

"If you want a real lasting peace, prepare for war. If we are denied the democratic right, then we will take it with all the force we can muster. Many have already seen the tip of it. All over the Province there are organisations ready to fight."

10th June, 1972 - Vanguard Rally, London, organised by National Front - Bill Craig in attendance.

Craig announced right of citizens to make their own arrests if anyone interferes with a march in Derry. Part of the march was banned. This gave the excuse for Tartans to attack soldiers. On the 24th October, 1972, Bill Craig predicted the possibility of "saturation bombing" of Catholic areas.

20th October, 1972 - London meeting of London Club.

Bill Craig said, "I am prepared to kill to save Ulster. I can mobilise tomorrow 80,000 men who will not see any compromise in Ulster, let us put bluff aside. I am prepared to kill and those behind me will have my full support."

He predicted 1,000 dead by Christmas, "My decision will not be in terms of ballots, but bullets

The Monday Club was acutely embarrassed and 20 members left.

THE BOYS OF IRELAND

february 1914
By
padraig
pearse

We of Na Fianna Eireann at the beginning of this year 1914, a year which is likely to be momentous in the history of our country, address ourselves to the boys of Ireland and invite them to band themselves with us in a nightly service. We believe that the highest thing anyone can do is to SERVE well and truly, and we purpose to serve Ireland with all our fealty and with all our strength. Two occasions are spoken of in ancient Irish story upon which Irish boys marched to the rescue of their country when it was sore beset - once when Cuchulainn and the boy-troop of Ulster held the frontier until the Ulster heroes rose, and again when the boys of Ireland kept the foreign invaders in check on the shores of Ventry until Fionn had rallied the Fianna: it may be that a similar tale shall be told of us, and that when men come to write the history of the freeing of Ireland they shall have to record that the boys of Na Fianna Eireann stood in the battle-gap until the Volunteers armed.

We believe, as every Irish boy whose heart has not been corrupted by foreign influence must believe, that our country ought to be free. We do not see why Ireland should allow England to govern her, either through Englishmen, as at present, or through Irishmen under an appearance of self government. We believe that England has no business in this country at all - that Ireland, from the centre to the zenith, belongs to the Irish. Our forefathers believed this and fought for it: Hugh O'Donnell and Hugh O'Neill and Rory O'More and Owen Roe O'Neill: Tone and Emmet and Davis and Mitchel.

What was true in their time is still true. Nothing that has happened or that can ever happen can alter the truth of it. Ireland belongs to the Irish. WE BELIEVE, THEN, THAT IT IS THE DUTY OF IRISHMEN TO STRUGGLE ALWAYS, NEVER GIVING IN OR GROWING WEARY, UNTIL THEY HAVE WON BACK THEIR COUNTRY AGAIN.

The object of Na Fianna Eireann is to train the boys of Ireland to fight Ireland's battle when they are men. In the past the Irish, heroically though they have struggled, have always lost, for want of discipline, for want of military knowledge,

for want of plans, for want of leaders. The brave Irish who rose in '98 in '48 and in '67, went down because they were not SOLDIERS: we hope to train Irish boys from their earliest years to be soldiers, not only to know the trade of a soldier - drilling, marching, camping, signalling, scouting and (when they are old enough) shooting - but also, what is far more important, to understand and prize military discipline and to have a MILITARY SPIRIT. Centuries of oppression and of unsuccessful effort have almost extinguished the military spirit of Ireland: if that were once gone - if Ireland were to become a land of contented slaves - it would be very hard, perhaps impossible, ever to arouse her again. We believe that Na Fianna Eireann have kept the military spirit alive in Ireland during the past four years, and that if the Fianna had not been founded in 1909, the Volunteers of 1913 would never have arisen. In a sense, then, the Fianna have been the pioneers of the Volunteers; and it is from the ranks of the Fianna that the Volunteers must be recruited. This is a special reason why we should be active during 1914. The Fianna will constitute what the old Irish called the MACRADH, or boy-troop, of the Volunteers, and will correspond to what is called in France an Ecole Polytechnique or Military School. As the man who was to lead the armies of France to such glorious victories came forth from the Military School of Brienne, so may the man who shall lead the Irish Volunteers to victory come forth from Na Fianna Eireann. Our programme includes every element of military training. We are not mere "Boy Scouts", although we teach and practise the art of scouting. Physical culture, infantry drill, marching, the routine of camp life, semaphore and Morse signalling, scouting in all its branches, elementary tactics, ambulance and first aid, swimming, hurling and football, are all included in our scheme of training, and opportunity is given to the older boys for bayonet and rifle practice. This does not exhaust our programme, for we believe that mental culture should go hand in hand with physical culture, and we provide instruction in Irish and in Irish history, lectures on historical and literary subject, and musical and social entertainments as opportunities permit.

FINALLY, WE BELIEVE WITH THOMAS DAVIS THAT "RIGHTEOUS MEN" MUST "MAKE OUR LAND A NATION ONCE AGAIN". Hence we endeavour to train our boys to be pure, truthful, honest, sober, kindly; clean in heart as well as in body; generous in their service to their parent and companions now as we would have them generous in their service to their country hereafter. We bear a very noble name and inherit very noble traditions, for we are called after the Fianna of Fionn, that heroic companionship which, according to legend, flourished in Ireland in the second and third centuries of the Christian era.

"We the Fianna, never told a lie, Falsehood was never imputed to us".

said Oisín to Saint Patrick, and again when Patrick asked Caoilte Mac Ronáin how it came that the Fianna won all their battles, Caoilte replies: "Strength that was in our hands, truth that was on our lips, and purity that was in our hearts."

Is it too much to hope that after so many centuries the old ideals are still quick in the heart of Irish youth, and that this year we shall get many hundred Irish boys to come forward and help us to build up a brotherhood of young Irishmen strong of limb, true and pure in tongue and hear, chivalrous, cultured in a really Irish sense, and ready to spend themselves in the service of their country?



The Republican Call

Irishmen throughout the land, stand together hand in hand,
Unite and fight and claim your right, your own dear native land,
Land of my birth, most loved nation on Earth,
Although you are small, you proudly walk tall,
As you now answer the Republican call.

Ask not what your country offers you
But what you can offer your country
Ireland unfree shall never be at peace
They may intern our bodies but not our spirits
D-a-m-n your concessions England we want our country.

Justice was never known, where England's seed is sown
She caused our separation, brought class distinction to our nation
And liquidation was Stormont's call
But the I.R.A. will fight and claim what is our right
Freedom of our own dear native Land.

Ask not what your country

Let this fight not be in vain, for our sons will rise again
And will until the day that Ireland's free
Justice will then come, with equality for everyone
Everyone then will call the true Republican call
O Ireland - Mother Ireland - Ireland Free.

Ask not what your country

An Cumann Cabhrach (Prisoners Dependents' Fund)
IN 5 Blessington Street, Dublin,
SATURDAY, 7th JULY, 11.00 A.M.



SOCIAL EVENING in North Star Hotel, Dublin
FRIDAY, 13th JULY. Taille 30 p.



CAKE SALE

175th Anniversary of the 1798 Rebellion

COMMEMORATIVE LECTURE

"Protestants in 18th century Ireland were among the most socially conscious and politically advanced people in western Europe, and consequently many of them became key figures in the 1798 Rebellion," said William McIlroy, Ulster-born general secretary of the National Secular Society, in London recently. He was giving a lecture on "The Influence of Rationalism on the Irish Rebellion of 1798." The lecture was arranged by the Freethought History Society, and took place, at Mr. McIlroy's request on the anniversary of Battle of Ballynahinch. He was born in the County Down town which was the scene of the last important battle of the uprising.

Mr. McIlroy said: "It is difficult in 1973 to visualise the north of Ireland, and Belfast in particular, as a centre of radical, freethinking ideas. But during the last two decades of the 18th century Belfast was alluded to as 'the Athens of the North', and Thomas Paine's AGE OF REASON was described as 'the Koran of Belfast.' Those Protestants who led the United Irishmen were not in revolt against the Crown for their own narrow and selfish purposes, or to obtain from the English Government more privileges for themselves at the expense of the Catholic population. They aimed to achieve national independence with equal rights for all, and the programme of the United Irishmen contained proposals for reform which were nearly 50 years

in advance of the English Chartists."

Referring to the role which the Roman Catholic Church has played in the struggle for Irish independence, Mr. McIlroy said "this was neither as sinister as its opponents, nor as honourable as its adherents claimed. The majority of priests supported the 1798 rebellion, and some of them led their parishioners into battle. They had nothing to lose, for intellectually and materially they were scarcely superior to the peasants. Wolfe Tone was probably right when he described the priests as 'men of low birth, low feelings, low habits and no education.' They had no cause to love the English who had made them virtually prisoners in their own parishes. But the Church leaders had little sympathy for the rebels. They knew that Tone and others were ardent Painites. It was an age of revolution and defiance of Church and King; the French king had been executed only five years before. The hierarchy saw the rebellion in its wider, European context; and were not prepared to support a movement of vengeful, illiterate peasants whose leaders spoke of the rights of man, and of the right of all Irish citizens to all the land."

Mr. McIlroy said that the decline in the libertarian, freethinking influence in Irish politics that followed the '98 rebellion was a tragedy for both Ireland and Britain. He added: "The Protestants were hoodwinked by religious demagogues, and flocked

into the ranks of the reactionary Orange Order. Daniel O'Connell made Irish independence synonymous with Roman Catholicism.

"Leaders of the 1798 rebellion, particularly the freethinker Wolfe Tone and the liberal Protestant Henry Joe McCracken, stand out as honourable and humane personalities, and they will be honoured by the Irish and the British people long after the drum-banging, flag-waving bigots of the present day have been forgotten. It is to be hoped that a future generation of northern Irish Protestants will again champion the ideals which inspired the men and women of '98."

WELSH RE-ORGANISE

The Welsh Republican Movement, which ceased its formal existence as the result of police harassment in the late 50's, has been reformed.

The movement existed around "Y Gweriniaethwr" (The Welsh Republican) a radical socialist newspaper, which it published over a period of ten years. This, too, is to be revived.

The Welsh Republicans, who consist of the leading lights of the original group and younger members of the Welsh Nationalist Party and the Welsh Language Society, see themselves as a political pressure group, and not as a new political party. They do not intend to contest any elections.

S.O.S. FROM SEAMUS STEELE ACCORDIAN BAND

Mr. Hugh McShane, 47, Rodney Drive, Belfast, 12, deserves the highest praise for the way his band turns out at the drop of a hat for Republican functions, Sinn Féin meetings and protest demonstrations organised for the release of the political hostages.

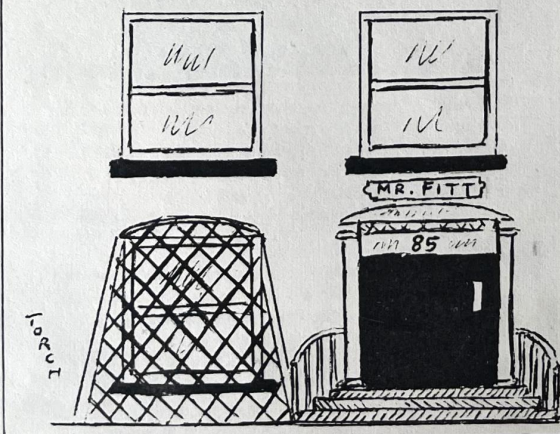
But running a band takes money — to buy and maintain instruments, uniforms etc. Mr. McShane is giving the boys and girls in his band, a taste and appreciation for music they will carry with them throughout their days.

The Seamus Steele Accordion Band badly need new uniforms and some new instruments. We are sure that our readers at home and abroad will come to the rescue. Cheques or postal orders should be made payable to "Seamus Steele Accordion Band" and addressed to: Mr. Hugh McShane, 47 Rodney Drive, Belfast, 12.

news

LETTERS, NEWS ITEMS, PHOTOGRAPHS, POEMS AND ARTICLES should be sent to the Editor, The Republican News, 182, Brompton Pk., Belfast. We'd be delighted to hear from you!

BEHIND THE WIRE No 1



BEHIND THE WIRE No 2



ANY SIMILARITY IS PURELY CO-INCIDENTAL

Death of Patrick Crawford

INTERNEES REFUTE PRESS ALLEGATIONS

We wish to refute the allegations made in the Press regarding the death of Patrick Joseph Crawford, who was an inmate of this cage. These scurrilous statements are being used by the black propagandists against Internees in general and against the men in Cage 5 in particular. As the Cumann representing Cage 5, we must defend these men against the following newspaper statements:

Irish Independent 20/6/1973 —
"had been badly beaten and locked out of his hut, ducked in cold water etc."

Irish Press 20/6/1973 —
"had been beaten up, ostracized and made to stand outside the hut with his belongings until bedtime."

Newsletter 20/6/1973 —
"The Camp Council had forced Crawford to stand outside his hut all day carrying his belongings in all types of weather removing his bedspring and mattress to deprive him of rest at night, eventually he broke under the stress and hanged himself."

Irish Times 19/6/1973 —
"Crawford recognised the commissioner and as a punishment was made by the other Internees to stand alone by the gate of the Compound each day, regardless of weather, his bedding was ruined when he was found hanged, his body had been battered and bruised."

The facts are thus, at no time was the late Paddy Crawford made to stand at the gate with his belongings, nor was his bedding even tampered with in any way. This can be verified by the Prison Officer in charge of the case. This was inferred as a punishment for recognising the Tribunal, but Paddy had only received his allegations the day previous to his death and never at anytime did he indicate what his attitude was going to be. His body was untouched except for cutting it down and applying artificial respiration and again this can be confirmed by two Prison Officers who were on the spot with in seconds of the body being discovered as well as the medical orderly and Rev. Fr. Faul who administered the Last Rites. Young Crawford took the fullest possible part in all Cage activities, indeed he played a Football match the day before his death and he engaged in the other limited past time available in the Cage. So there can be no insinuations about his being ostracized.

The truth must surely embarrass all who have used his unfortunate death for their gutter type propaganda to further their own particular aims.

We in Cage 5 know all about the intimidation and harassment dished out by the authorities and the conditions which made the circumstances what they were and are, a

situation which was designed by the British Warlords and Stormont Castle to achieve exactly what it has in this case. The names of the Prison Warders who were in the hut, when his body was removed are available and no doubt their evidence will be taken by the

Coroner at the appropriate time.

Just as long as the good name the internees and the men in Cage 5 are cleared, then that is all we ask.

F. Liggett Cumann, Long Kesh Camp, Cage 5. P.R.O.

celtic prisoners

Accepting that the Celtic League's umbrella covers a wide spectrum of political view, members or C.L. sympathisers of whatever political view cannot fail to be moved by the fact that in some of the Celtic countries alien rule or alien pressure is manifested by the incarceration of a number of political prisoners. AMONG THE MANY HUNDREDS INTERNED IN NORTHERN IRELAND THERE ARE SOME BEING DEPRIVED OF FREEDOM FOR THE PAST 2 YEARS WITHOUT HAVING BEEN TRIED. In the case of the Irish prisoners the legal niceties of a trial is frequently dispensed with. When prisoners, whether Irish, Scottish or Welsh have been tried, the use of agents provocateurs and acceptance of circumstantial evidence give rise to the impression that the principal juridical axiom is that political defendants are guilty until proved innocent.

The Celtic League does not advocate violence but it should not remain indifferent to the fate of so many interned without trial or others in prison who are basically the victims of the colonial system that has persisted in this part of Europe. The obvious approach for those of our readers who are concerned would seem to be to "adopt" a prisoner from a country other than their own. Apart from the intrinsic worth of such an arrangement, the say, Manx adopter will become more familiar with the, say, Scottish scene, while the Scottish prisoner learns something about Manx problems.

Indications are that the number of political prisoners will grow rather than diminish. Furthermore, prisoners are moved sometimes from jail to jail so that it would be impractical to circulate up-to-date lists. Those who would like to

(Continued on Page 8).

Itinerants Beware! He's at it again (and he's got YOU

in his gunsights!



P.S. Mr. Donnegan first became famous when he took a shotgun and fired on an Itinerant Camp endangering the lives of women and children because they had the cheek to camp too near to his establishment

The Monasterboice Inn, near Drogheda.

SINN FEIN 1916 1921

The Anglo-Irish War dominated every other development in Ireland between 1919 and 1921. The events of these years and the settlement with which they ended were overshadowed by warfare, by the guerilla campaign of the I.R.A. and the reprisals of the Black and Tans, by the willingness of the British government to prolong and the Irish people to endure a savage war of attrition.

Yet violence formed only one aspect of the struggle for Irish freedom during its last phase, and the political activity of Sinn Fein, through less dramatic, was also vitally important, just as it is now in 1973.

During the three years between the Easter Rising and the outbreak of widespread guerilla warfare in 1919, the political rather than the military wing of the separatist movement predominated; more time and energy were devoted to building up a nation-wide political wing, distributing propaganda and contesting elections than to fighting, drilling or amassing weapons.

With the spread of military action between 1919 and 1921 the relative importance of this political activity declined sharply, but its earlier achievements had conditioned the nature of the struggle with England, and to the end it remained a significant factor in its own right.

The Easter Rising volunteers claimed to represent the people but had acted, with the utmost sincerity, in direct opposition to what many people wanted. Many people then, like now, were brainwashed by what Padraig Pearse condemned as the "Murder Machine" (British educational system in Ireland).

CELTIC PRISONERS (with acknowledgements to "Carn")

correspond with prisoners and perhaps send them reading material should write to their branch secretary or to Miss Jacqueline Kaye, Secretary Prisoners Aid Committee, 318 Lillie Road, London SW.6, (not a C.L. member). They should indicate their own nationality and state which national variety of prisoner they would like to adopt. Adopters are warned from the outset that the prison/concentration camp authorities tend to raise as many obstacles as they can to thwart the efforts of those who participate in this particular work of mercy.

Those who carried on their work behaved differently. Their first concern was to win over public opinion to their cause, to consolidate it and to utilize. Exactly what Sinn Fein needs to do now.

During 1917 and 1918 this course was forced upon them by circumstances. Another rebellion was out of the question since the Irish Republican Army were leaderless, badly-armed and too shaken by their recent defeat to consider any form of organised and large-scale resistance. But the separatists also adopted peaceful methods out of genuine conviction. The nationalist ideology which inspired them demanded that independence should be won by the people themselves rather than by an Elite acting on their behalf. (One of the main purposes of the Easter Week leaders had been to shock the public into wanting what the Republican volunteers thought they should want).

The big question is: "Are the S.A.S. in active service in the North of Ireland. We will recall some 'mysterious incidents' which lend evidence to the theory that these people are actively engaged in undercover duty against the Irish people in the North.

There is not much doubt with each successive incident involving plain-clothed Brits that people in the ghetto areas are becoming more and more aware of a sinister presence in our streets. Last year, in a highly proficient and readable article the SUNDAY NEWS took up the case of these special squads and actually proved that they were here on active duty. As the reporter himself put it 'if the SAS are NOT active here, then this would be a dramatic change in English Army policy in her colonies'

We in the Republican Movement have been aware of these squads from as far back as February 1971 and below we document an account of some of the nemarious activities of these people. We have not recorded all these incidents as the research involved would be momentous, but those printed below should be enough for you all to decide the answer to the question YES or NO.

(1) In July last year in Rodney, 19 year old Daniel Rooney was shot to death at a street corner by plain-clothed soldiers. At first his murder was put down to Loyalists,

The fact that this came about less through their own efforts than through the stupidity of the Brits did not lessen its success. Once Sinn Fein had a serious chance of winning elections against either Nationalists or Unionists — that is after the change of public opinion which followed the 1916 Rising, most of the separatists participated actively in political work.

Many militant Republicans regarded the post-Rising years as no more than a lull in the fighting, a period during which they could regain their breath and prepare for the next round. But they supported all Sinn Fein's political efforts, realising that anything which weakened the British position and consolidated support behind the Republican cause could only benefit the military struggle of the Volunteers.

Members of Sinn Fein who remained at liberty or who were soon

released from internment after the Rising, were demoralised by its outcome and had no idea what they should do next. For a short period they did little more than keep in touch with one another and to look after the welfare of those Volunteers and their families who had suffered through their connection with the rebellion. They did virtually nothing to capitalise on the change in public opinion.

It was only in the beginning of 1917 that Sinn Fein resumed the offensive. The internees from Reading Jail and Fromgock camp who had been released the previous Christmas proved themselves more able and aggressive than those who had led the movement in their absence

TO BE CONTINUED

SAS

but later claimed by the English.

(2) Patrick McVeigh (45) was standing on a street corner at Finaghy Road North with several other vigilantes. Again an unmarked car drew with civilians inside and opened fire. Patrick McVeigh died in a hail of bullets, 4 others were injured. Loyalists were blamed. It was not until this man's inquest that the truth finally came out — it was plain-clothed soldiers responsible.

(3) On the Shankill Road towards the end of last year, an unmarked car was stopped by a hostile crowd. The car had apparently been acting suspiciously. The men inside were found to be English and when they could not give a proper account of themselves they were beaten up, their car searched and documents were found which were intended to be planted on some unsuspecting Protestant. An Army patrol arrived and rescued their mates.

(4) The exact same incident occurred in East Belfast and involved an S.A.S. member and an R.U.C. reserve. Protestant people again dealt with these spies before the English Army arrived to take them away.

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(5) Then there was an incident which took place at a taxi rank in Andersonstown last year when several men were gunned down by plain-clothed Brits.

(6) In the Andersonstown area also several Brits in plain-clothes took over a house previously owned by a local doctor and fired on innocent people from it seriously wounding 5 people.

(7) The people of Ballymurphy should not forget that incident in which two brothers were shot by plain-clothed Brits who were lying in wait behind a hedge. The saracen which came to collect the would-be assassins claimed that they had shot the wrong men!

(8) Remember the FOUR SQUARE LAUNDRY. In this incident the I.R.A. were able to deal most effectively with members of the M.R.F. who are under the direct control of the S.A.S.

(9) In the Bawnmore Estate a few months ago members of the C.E.S.A. came upon a strange car and stopped it. The men were found to be English. Two of the men ran off, leaving their comrade in the back seat. The C.E.S.A. interrogated this man and he admitted that he was an S.A.S. member and begged for his life. The English Army patrol arrived and took him away.

(10) The killing of two postmen on Falls Road in February was carried out with English Army assistance by the S.A.S.