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IRISH FREEDOM FIGHTER IN ACTION





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MARXISM

There are so many leftist organisations who term themselves as Marxist that the average worker looking at the various programmes of these organisations especially in relation to the struggle in the Six Counties cannot be blamed if they feel frustrated in trying to understand them.

Take for instance the Communist Party of Ireland who have been flogging as the cure for all our problems A Bill of Rights to be passed by the Westminster Parliament. It is a pity how this one time mass party has fallen to a handful of active workers, so that they can only shout slogans and sell a few hundred of their newsheet 'Unity'!

Even the revolution will pass them by, you see they haven't the time for revolution, the old guard including Andy Barr and Jimmy Graham are so caught up in trade union affairs they still got full wages which ran to that they have become respectable £43 for unskilled to £57 for skilled and find they must work for their workers.

The firm when they reported to the Minister of State Peter Mills (who has been running round the country telling how they have been cutting down unemployment and that the Six Counties is an economic miracle) that they intended making half of the labour redundant, were told very bluntly that they could do no such thing, it was against the policies of the Minister of State to allow workers to become redundant, so now Shorts is at present trying to hide Machine men, electricians, paint shop men and other labour inside the main works where at least they will not be paying so high wages for them doing nothing. Yet this past week the newspapers have been telling us and the world that the only thing that is keeping back the Six Counties economy is a shortage of labour ? ? ? ? ?

I would like to know how many more industries are hiding unwanted labour, just to make the monthly returns on unemployment look so much better.

On the other hand in reading this week's 'Irish Trotskyist' a newsheet which belongs to the Revolutionary Marxist Group, states quite openly and proudly, "The working class is faced with an escalating repression in the North of Ireland. As Imperialism's unseaworthy Assembly life mercurially prior to its final submergence the turn to increased repression was to be expected. It is to be seen today with the Six boys under sixteen interned and 12 women interned. The threat now hangs over almost every man, woman and child in the minority.

From internment, military oppression, unemployment and bad housing to the ring road, the evils of Imperialism can be catalogued.

"The Newsletter tries to discredit us as being supporters of the armed struggle against Imperialism. We do not deny it for we have consistently taken the line that armed struggle is an essential part of the campaign on the Run" by Dr. Rona Fields a

against Imperialism."

Well dear reader, that's my kind of music, and if that is real Marxism then what of the others who also claim to be Marxist and can have such silly ideas as that of the British and Imperial Communist Organisation who backs Paisley, Craig and Faulkner in their efforts to keep the 'British Way of Life' on our necks?

UNEMPLOYMENT?

For six of the past eight years Short's Aircraft Factory has been receiving the Queen's Awards to Industry for their successful exports in the Missile side of their business. But alas for the workers involved the bottom has fallen out of the Missile market and for the past few months almost 300 workers have been standing twiddling their thumbs because there was nothing for them to do, but they still got full wages which ran to that they have become respectable £43 for unskilled to £57 for skilled and find they must work for their workers.

The firm when they reported to the Minister of State Peter Mills (who has been running round the country telling how they have been cutting down unemployment and that the Six Counties is an economic miracle) that they intended making half of the labour redundant, were told very bluntly that they could do no such thing, it was against the policies of the Minister of State to allow workers to become redundant, so now Shorts is at present trying to hide Machine men, electricians, paint shop men and other labour inside the main works where at least they will not be paying so high wages for them doing nothing. Yet this past week the newspapers have been telling us and the world that the only thing that is keeping back the Six Counties economy is a shortage of labour ? ? ? ? ?

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CENSORSHIP

When a book about the Six Counties is castigated and sneered at by all reviewers in the English press, including that character John Whale of the Sunday Times who studied it line by line to find out all the typographical errors and came up with a total of 25. Then even out of curiosity one must read it to find out what made their temperatures rise so

The book is of course "A Society a little nearer to members seats. It

Professor of Social Psychology at Clark University Massachusetts, who came to Belfast and lived in the Falls Road and Shankill Road during her studies of the implications of British policy in the Six Counties. She came to the conclusion that the British were carrying out a policy of genocide, but in a typical British manner. The approach was that of the lead filled velvet glove no blunt of dramatic acts just a constant process of wearing down the spirits of the people. In its way the British treatment of N.I. is more subtle and more horrible than the Nazi way with the Jews.

In a lecture in Dublin last week Dr. Fields told her audience how her publishers Penguin Books had not only censored her conclusions but also made many misspellings and typographical errors to throw doubt on the contents (John Whale does this very thing). So we now have censorship by the publishers. But I can also inform Dr. Fields that Penguin Books did not stop at that. One of the largest bookshops in Belfast (the owner is a friend of mine) was told by the representatives from Penguin Books not to push the sales too hard as they weren't interested in large sales. This shop sold fifty copies of the book in three days but can't get a repeat order. I confirmed this information by going around other bookshops in the city, not one copy in sight.

This book, even with all its faults, is a classic and should be in the bookcase of every Republican and Progressive to be read and used as a reference book.

THE OLD/NEW STORMONT

To all those people who feel for the propaganda of the S.D.L.P. that it was only through the Assembly that progress could be made, they promised an end to internment, because they were on the same wavelength with Whitelaw who would see to it that all their demands be granted otherwise there would be no executive, therefore without their co-operation there would be no Assembly, must be wondering what is happening to all those promises as the new session of the Assembly enter into its fourth week.

To recap what the Assembly members have achieved so far.

The old speaker's chair from the Stormont days with its old coat of arms is to be retained. After four hours discussion it was decided to move the chair and the clerk's table a little nearer to members seats. It

was decided also to retain the Mace, although they couldn't make up their minds on what it symbolised. According to Paisley it symbolised as Mr. Oliver Cromwell thought, royalty, he was rudely interrupted by Bob Cooper of the Alliance Party who believed Cromwell looked upon the Mace as the symbol of the parliament he wanted to smash. On top of that it was only natural they would also decide to have a sergeant at arms complete with black knee breeches, silvered buckled shoes and sword. But glory be to allow Paisley to compose in his own prose the daily prayer to the English Queen is surely the climax of what the 19 members of the S.D.L.P. will allow.

The Republican Movement and the mass of the people of the Six Counties pulled down Stormont, are we to allow the S.D.L.P. to help the various shades of unionism bring back all the trappings of the regime that we all suffered under so much. At what point do the S.D.L.P. members stand up in the Assembly and cry enough? Only the people themselves can end this farce by disowning the Fitt's and Cooper's and the whole gang who call themselves the peoples representatives.

Headline in the Sunday Independent 4/11/73. "The Jolly Englishman who knows our problem Best."

"Paisley started off as a back street pornographer, but just as a back street pornographer becomes successful, moves into the stockbroker belt and has to win respectability from the neighbours, this back street pornographer went to Westminster and tried to pretend that he was really a respectable publisher." (Bob Cooper, Hibernia 2/11/73).

"The S.D.L.P. at times give the impression that they would wear the detention of Republicans, provided it was matched with a correspondence level of Loyalist detention." (Michael McKeown, Hibernia 2/11/73).

"By the time we got back to Belfast I had missed the Dublin train. The old woman thought me naive. You should have rung up to say there was a bomb on it. That always holds it up for about an hour." (Brian Rooney on his visit to Long Kesh. Hibernia 2/11/73).

INQUIRY INTO THE DEATH OF FRANCIS DODDS AT CAGE 18, LONG KESH

A chara,

On behalf of the sentenced Republican Prisoners in Cage 18, I would like to use the columns of your newspaper to express our deep concern at the circumstances surrounding the death of Frankie Dodds, who died here on the 9th September. We, who have been close to Frankie for the past year, believe that his death was due to the refusal of the Authorities to provide proper medical treatment for the men here.

The past year was one of total suffering for Frankie, and, for the few months before his death, he was crippled with swollen feet and severe chest pains. This was known to the prison doctors, and to Commd. Truesdale, but, as with all other matters in here, security came first, and, Frankie was not allowed to an outside hospital. As he was not receiving the proper medical treatment, his condition worsened, until finally he collapsed and died — here in the cage.

The Establishment, fearing a scandal, held an inquest into his death less than four weeks later. An abnormally short period by any standards. His widow, who received no notification of the inquest was not present, and, his solicitor received such short notice, he had not time to contact witnesses.

We have compiled a complete dossier on the death of Frankie Dodds, and, these complete with witnesses signatures etc., have been passed to the Board of Visitors, with a request for (a) an independent Public Inquiry into the death of Frankie Dodds, and (b) an independent Public Inquiry into the medical care provided for prisoners in Long Kesh, especially the unwillingness of the Authorities to send prisoners to an outside hospital, and, keep them there, until properly recovered.

We have demanded immediate action on these matters.

le meas,
P.R.O., Cage 18,
Long Kesh.

Francis Dodds, of 73 Logan Street, Belfast. Age — 31 years.

This man was in perfect health up to the time of his arrest in September 1972. He had a keen active interest in sport, and held a 4th Dan black belt in judo. He was also a member of the T.A.R. up to the time of internment. After his arrest he was taken to Castlereagh for interrogation where Special Branch men, removed his shoes and refused to return them. After his court appearance, he was sent to Long Kesh, and arrived, minus shoes, on the 22nd of September. On this date, the men in this cage were attacked by British army personnel, and, a considerable number of men were injured. Frankie, who had only been in Long Kesh a matter of hours, was badly beaten about the legs and feet. His feet became very swollen. This became a constant source of complaint for him. He also complained of severe chest pains.

Frankie arrived here last June. By then he had almost lost feeling in his chest and had great difficulty in walking. The pains in his chest worsened and at times left him breathless. He paid numerous visits to the prison doctor, but never received any treatment to alleviate his condition. On one occasion he was brought to an outside hospital for a check up, and the doctors there wanted him to stay. The prison officers with him objected, and said that he must return to the camp. On returning to the camp Frankie put this to the prison doctor and asked him when was he going to be admitted to an outside hospital. The doctor informed him that he had the release papers ready and waiting, but, the Authorities had not granted permission. Frankie died on the 9th September 1973, after a year of total and unrelieved pain and anguish. He collapsed in Cage 18, and we were informed that he was dead 5 to 10 minutes after he was brought out of the cage.

THE INQUEST

The inquest into his death took place less than four weeks later, an abnormally short period by any standards. His widow, who received no notification, was not present, and, his solicitor received so short a notice that he had not even time to contact witnesses. Taking all this information, plus witnesses etc., into consideration, we feel that there is a definite case for legal action against the prison authorities for criminal negligence, by depriving this man of the medical attention which he so urgently needed. We would therefore request,

a) an independent Public Inquiry into the death of Frankie Dodds, and

b) an independent Public Inquiry into the Medical Care provided for prisoners in Long Kesh, especially the unwillingness of the Authorities to send them to an outside hospital, and keep them there until properly recovered.

We request immediate action on these matters.

ANTI APARTHEID MOVEMENT

The Anti Apartheid Movement with offices at 173 Barton Road East, Dundrum, Dublin 14, are presently organising a campaign to force the South African government to free Sean Hosey, an Irishman, who is serving a minimum sentence of five years for trying to deliver money and false pass books to a Mr. Mpanza.

Declan Costello, T.D.,
Dr. Conor Cruise O'Brien, T.D.,
Barry Desmond, T.D.,
Senator James Dooge,
John Hume, A.M.,
Senator Fintan Kennedy,
Noel Lemass, T.D.,
Senator Mary Robinson,
Senator Eoin Ryan, S.C.,

The Anti Apartheid Movement claim that the South African government is very sensitive to international pressure, and ask that those who may wish to help in this campaign write to the address given above. The Anti Apartheid Movement is worthy of praise, and those people who publicly sponsor their activities deserve credit. Some of the sponsors are:

Sean Hosey is one of the Pretoria Six. The others: Tlou Cholo (a member of the South African Congress of Trade Unions), Alexandre Moumbaris, Justice Mpanza, Petrus Mtembu and Gardiner Sijaka, were accused of having committed an actual act of "terrorism". Nevertheless they were detained under the Terrorism Act, most of them in July 1972, and held for many months in solitary confinement without access to family, friends or lawyers.

Most of our readers will recognise the above people as being active in Free State politics, a State which claims to treat all the children of the nation equally. Unfortunately they seem to set the needs of the children of other nations above those of their fellow countrymen and women. One has rarely, if ever, heard them speaking out in public against the treatment of prisoners and the conditions they have to endure, both in the North and in the Free State. Their names have never been lent to any political action taken on behalf of the prisoners. Far from treating all the children of the nation equally. They are not treating the children of the nation at all. Their position, therefore, is unjustifiable. Their sense of honesty, consistency and compassion is truly remarkable because of the lack of it. We can only conclude that the history books will definitely have to be re-written. St. Patrick never brought Christianity to Ireland.

Secret agents working for the British Government have been organising and arming a sectarian "loyalist army" in a desperate attempt to maintain British influence in Ireland.

the Belfast gun shop Guns and Tackle in Great Victoria Street, his spy-masters gave him instructions to establish links with the loyalists whom Campbell and Strong hoped to supply.

Britain's Secret Arms Supplied to Orange

Details of the operations — which are believed to have included the "raids" on the Forensic Science Laboratory in Belfast and several U.D.R. armouries, when loyalist bigots were given hundreds of modern weapons — were revealed in the British magazine "Private Eye."

Among other points emerging in a full page, highly-detailed article are:-

* Confirmation that the R.U.C. Special Branch supply assassination list names to loyalist killers.

* Desmond Boal, Q.C. — Paisley's right hand man — blackmailed the British into allowing U.D.A. leader Charles Harding Smith and its arms supplier John Campbell to go free after they had been charged with arms offences.

* That the Assistant Chief Constable of the R.U.C., Jamie Flanagan, is involved in the affair.

The disclosure came from former D16 agent Kevin Kavanagh. Defence Intelligence 6 is the section of the British Secret Intelligence Service which deals with spy activities outside Britain.

Kavanagh — who served with British Intelligence during the War — has told how he was recruited into the British spy network when he set up a gun factory in Birr, Co. Offaly. The Fenian Gun Co. Ltd., which manufactured shot guns, had three other British agents on the pay-roll and was to be used to infiltrate anti-British groups in Ireland. But in 1969, after approaches from George Strong and John Campbell who owned

Shortly after this Kavanagh "received a visit from the Rev. Ian Paisley and his bodyguard David Larner." Paisley mentioned that Strong and Campbell were very good friends of his. But Kavanagh gives no details of what went on between the loyalists and the Fenian Gun Co. He had a row with D16 about the money they were paying him and gave up his activities in Ireland to return to England. Here he learned that loyalist groups were receiving arms from a factory in Brescia, Italy.

But the Brits, worried about the secret army they were setting up to play off against the Republican threat to their continued presence in Ireland might become too well armed, stopped the supply of arms from Italy and other European sources and arranged to have their loyalist servants "steal" their weapons in faked raids on U.D.R. posts.

When the U.D.A. refused to toe the line given to them by the British agents within that organisation and attempted to get arms independently the British trapped Harding Smith and Campbell and with two other leading U.D.A. men held them in custody for eight months.

It was at this point that Dessie Boal entered the picture, although his role before this is not clear. He flew to London and visited Campbell, Harding Smith, Johnston and Dalzell in Brixton prison. He told Harding Smith that the press had found out that British forces had raided his home in Rosebank Street and had taken Special Branch dossiers which had been supplied to the U.D.A.

by the British agents who were in the organisation. And he told him, too, that he should threaten to disclose in court that the Brits were supplying the U.D.A. with information, assistance and arms if they did not agree to allow him to go free.

The case was heard at the Old Bailey last December. Despite evidence from London detectives that they had hidden in a cupboard and overheard the accused arrange a £100,000 arms deal all the defendants were freed. Campbell, who was worried about the Brits going back on the deal they had made with him to let him go, said from the witness box: "I was acting as an agent of the authorities."

Jamie Flanagan sent a sworn statement to the court saying that Harding Smith was "a man of good character." Flanagan has become head of the R.U.C.

PRIVATE EYE — which has a world wide reputation for dragging skeletons from the British cupboard — rounded off its article by saying: "Like the Little-

johns, Mr. Kavanagh, in the finest traditions of the Foreign Office, has been left to his fate once he has served his purpose." The details of Kavanagh's story are so perfect that there can be no doubt that he was a British agent and he has the inside story of British involvement with loyalists.

And his story confirms what the Republican Movement has repeatedly said. That in their attempts to hold on to the last shred of their empire here in Ireland there is no dirty trick the British will hesitate to play and there are no lengths to which they will not go.

Letters

Should be addressed to the Editor, 182 Brompton Park, Belfast.

Funeral of O'Donovan Rossa

(Reprinted from "The Irish Volunteer," July 31, 1915)

Tomorrow the remains of O'Donovan Rossa will be laid to rest in Glasnevin Cemetery, and the men of Ireland will have the opportunity of paying a last tribute of respect to one of the greatest of the men of 1867.

The funeral of a '67 man, occurring at such a time as this, must inevitably remind us of the circumstances attending the funeral of Terence Bellew MacManus in 1861. MacManus was a '48 man who died in San Francisco in 1861. Arrangements were made for bringing his remains to Ireland, and the newly organised Fenian Movement took charge of the funeral arrangements. They decided to make it a test of their strength and discipline. The funeral itself was a most impressive affair. Order was kept among the vast concourse of people by Fenian Marshalls, and 50,000 men, nearly all members of the Fenian Brotherhood, marched in procession.

In Thomas Street the men uncovered where they passed the spot where Robert Emmett was executed. At Glasnevin, James Stephens delivered the oration. From that day, Fenianism was a power. Tomorrow one of the men who organis-

ed that procession will receive a similar tribute.

O'Donovan Rossa fell into the hands of the English Government a hen, in September 1865, it raided the offices of the "Irish People," which he had managed since its foundation two years before. Luby, O'Leary and Haltigan were arrested with him. He was sentenced to penal servitude, and during the years he was in prison he was constantly subjected to the utmost brutality and the grossest insult. In 1871, with other prisoners, he was released on condition of not returning to Ireland for 20 years.

After his release he lived in America for many years, where he took an active part in assisting the National Movement at home. He spent some time in Ireland a few years ago, and, to the regret of his friends, returned again to spend the last years of his life in America.

Now he is dead, and his remains have been received in Dublin with the honour due to one who has never wavered in his adherence to the cause of an Independent Ireland.

The funeral which will take place tomorrow, will mark a fitting close to the career of a man who died unrepentant of his hostility to imperialism, and who spent his whole life in the service of Ireland.

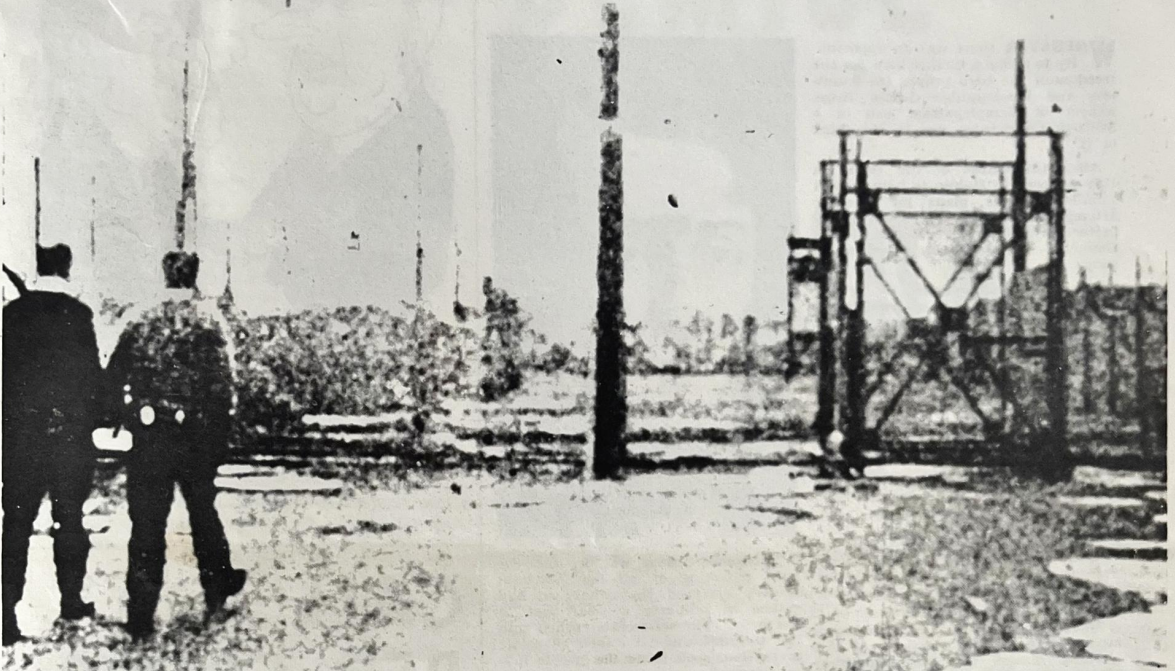
The streets of Dublin will be thronged with men from all parts of Ireland, who believe in the principles to which O'Donovan Rossa dedicated his life.

UNCONFOUNDED BY CONTEMPORARY HAPPENINGS: UNDISTURBED BY THE PRESENT TURMOIL IN EUROPE, THEY WILL CARRY ON THE WORK WHICH HE HAS LEFT UNFINISHED, UNTIL ITS FINAL TRIUMPH.

(Another brotherhood, the Irish Republican Brotherhood, were in charge of the arrangements for O'Donovan Rossa's funeral. Another old Fenian, Tom Clarke, who like O'Donovan Rossa had spent many hard years in an English prison, now a member of the Supreme Council, suggested that a young Republican, Padraig Pearse, should give the oration. Irish Republicans have a long tradition of honouring their dead comrades. Pearse's oration became famous: "The fools, the fools, the fools, they have left us our Fenian dead and while Ireland holds these graves, Ireland unconquered shall never be at peace."

These words are as true today as when they were first uttered over the grave of O'Donovan Rossa, in Glasnevin, on 1st August, 1915 — (Editor).

HALLOWE'EN IN LONG KESH



BY SEAMUS LOUGHRAN

I felt very sad tonight. That is to say a lot sadder than I usually do. There was a reason for it of course. We held a concert in the canteen and while you may think nothing of that. Let me rush to assure you that it is quite an event and that some considerable hard work and planning went into it. We had a group, mostly composed of ex members of the late Eamonn Largey's Flying Column. We had a first class compere, a ventriloquist, with a live "dummy" and we had singers from the floor. We had a couple of the teachers who give a turn while they were in for their hour. We laughed, we sang, all the usual type of Republican songs, happy ones and sad ones. And we had Malachy McNally. That may not mean anything again to you. Malachy specialises in Monologues, again sad ones, happy ones and Sheer Bloody Dynamite. He gave us the latter for a start. In it he recalls why we are here, why Irelands sons have to struggle, how each generation throws up those who will defy Britain for the Ideals of Republicanism.

If you lived around Belfast you have heard Malachi (he prefers it with an i) if you haven't heard him then that is your loss. His method of delivery may not be the classic one, but he gets his point across simply because he believes sincerely in every word he says, and also because all he is recalling in the Monologue, Who Dares to Say Forget, is true. So very true. It made me glad to be among such fine dedicated men, and happy and proud to be Irish. It also made me sad.

I don't like death or destruction, in fact I have never met anyone who does. My country your country, our country has

seen more than enough of both to last us two or three lifetimes. Still it goes on. Why? Does not yet, the Government of Westminster, see the light? Does she not see that we will never relax our ambition to unite our people, call it country if you will, but I prefer people. What use is a land without people? Does England intend always to play the Overlord in all things Irish while the quislings down in the Free State watch each and every Helicopter with suspicion? We have come a long road from 1171. We will continue along that road until we reach the cross roads, which we are so near now. When that point is reached we

KNOW that the Irish People can and will settle their differences peacefully. Amiably. There is no other way. Civil War is out of the question for all of us. No one wins a civil war. No one progresses from that stage. So we are to be left with the option of talking and thus settling our problems. Why not now? Why not accept the terms offered by the Republican Movement for a Truce, a Cease Fire, and get the negotiations started now, instead of ten years from now? Why waste ten years, or less or more, we must start now and ALL points of view must be considered, and will be considered. That guarantee the Move-

ment has given. What more do they want? Our blood? Has not enough of that been spilt to date. Must we keep on the same way as before? There is not one progressive step to be gained, so why not? That is a question for White-law and Heath to answer. Meanwhile, I will probably hear Malachi again, I will feel aroused, I will feel happy and I will feel sad. Malachi will feel sad too. As I say he, like all good Republicans, tells only the truth and as I have said so many times, the truth will always win eventually.

SEAMUS LOUGHRAN.

Orphans Reply to S.D.L.P.

Dear Editor,

We would be grateful if you would spare us space in your paper to add weight to your column (27/10/73) on Paddy Devlin's slur on orphan boys.

We would like to inform your readers that no one from the S.D.L.P., including Paddy Devlin, applied for permission to the Sisters of Nazareth, the Spiritual Director, or the people who matter most, the orphan boys, to give a lengthy statement to "The Sunday Press" some weeks ago.

The orphan boys were deeply annoyed and disgusted when they read the statement. We deplore the blatant and hypocritical action of the S.D.L.P. in being a party to such a statement. We would like your readers to know a few facts not mentioned in it.

Why did Paddy Devlin and other S.D.L.P. members not even bother to attend the three funerals of orphan boys, two who were murdered, and one who died in Long Kesh Concentration Camp?

Why did no member of S.D.L.P. visit orphan boys in Long Kesh or in prison or the few who are still held on remand on political charges?

The allegation in the statement that orphan boys are being bribed, used and easy prey for the I.R.A. is baseless and completely untrue as any orphan boy will confirm. We think it is only honest to add that the only political organisation represented at the funerals was Sinn Féin. We certainly respect them for that.

Yours sincerely,

PAST PUPIL'S GROUP, NAZARETH.

James Hope of Templepatrick

MAN OF ACTION
AND INTELLECT

WHEREVER there was an opportunity to strike a further blow for the freedom of the Irish people, the dauntless and incorruptible James Hope, weaver of Templepatrick, son of a Scottish Covenanter, was in the thick of it.

After the defeat of the rising in 1798 he went to Dublin to help Robert Emmett in his plans for another attempt in 1803, and helped to manufacture arms for the revolutionaries in Emmett's secret Thomas Street workshop.

Persecuted and hounded by British agents for many years afterwards, he refused to flee the country but lived and worked in hiding until the death of British Premier Pitt in 1806 brought a relaxation of the terror. He then returned to the North and worked for some years in Larne.

"Jemmy" Hope, born August 25, 1764, known as "The Spartan" to his comrades, was a self-educated working man and one of the most perspicacious and vigorous intellects the United Irish movement produced.

Personally courageous and straight-dealing in his relations with people, it is in his ideas and teachings, however, that we can trace that power of independent thought which gave force and conviction to his action.

"When I speak of myself," he wrote later, "I mean the survivors of the working classes who struggled from 1794 to 1806 when the State prisoners were banished and the Castle spies paid off."

Writing of the revolutionary times, he said, "Belfast was the cradle of politics in Ulster. The foundation of Ireland's freedom was laid there by a few master spirits."

Describing how in his early years his tutor "turned my attention to the nature of the relations between the different classes of society," he commented:

"There were three parties — those whose industry produced the necessities of life, those who circulated them, and those whose subsistence depended on fictitious claims and capital and lived and acted as if men and cattle were created solely for their own use and benefit, and to whom a sycophantic clergy were ready to bow with the most profound respect."

"The struggle at that period, as at the present (1843) was merely between commercial and aristocratic interests to determine which should have the people as its property, or its prey."

"So complete was the concentration of aristocratic monetary influence that nothing but its own corruption could destroy it."

"The war commenced between the claims of the plough and the sword, action became arrayed against reality, the interests of capital against those of labour, and the rich lost sight of their dependence on the poor."

However "the progress of the revolution in France had excited the mass of the people and had put the aristocrats to their shifts."

"The appearance of a French fleet at Bantry Bay brought the rich farmers and shop keepers into the societies, and with them all the corruption essential to the objects of the British Ministry."



"McCracken, who was by far the most deserving of all our northern leaders, observed that what we had gained in numbers we had lost in worth. . . The aristocrats rushed into the societies, and . . . their plausible pretensions soon lulled the people into confidence."

Hope, however, expressed his conviction "that so long as men of rank and fortune lead a people, they will modify abuses, reform to a certain extent, but they will never remove any real grievances that press down on the people."

He said: "It was my settled opinion that the condition of the labouring class was the fundamental question at issue between the rulers and the people, and there could be no solid foundation for liberty till measures were adopted that went to the root of the evil."

Few more penetrating observations on the time could be ventured even today.

This advanced thinker and practical man of action died on August 25, 1846. The headstone on his grave at Malusk reads:

"Sacred to the memory of James Hope. One of Nature's noblest works: an Honest Man; steadfast in Faith and always hopeful in the Divine protection; in the best era of his country's history a soldier in her cause, and in the worst of times still faithful to it. Ever true to himself and to those who trusted him, he remained to the last unchanged and unchangeable in his fidelity. . ."

Minister Supremo William
For there are rumours 'that Mr Whitelaw
may soon be recalled from Northern Ireland
top



"Dickey, you are a liar, a cheat, a crook and you're stark raving mad. How would you like to be Secretary of State for Northern Ireland?"

CALL TO
RED CROSS

A STATEMENT JUST RELEASED by the Sinn Fein Ulster Executive claims that the recent Red Cross report on Long Kesh Concentration Camp is "riddled with half-truths and accusations against the internees." The statement says that the report has all the ingredients of a carefully compiled handout from the Long Kesh authorities.

The Ulster Executive say that the dilapidation of materials in many huts and the apathy of the inmates, is not due to non-co-operation by them, as the report alleges, but is due to constant brutality of British soldiers stationed in the Concentration Camp.

"These soldiers," say the Executive, "take sadistic delight in smashing and pilfering internee's property and using excessive force and violence against defenceless men and boys."

ABOLISH SINISTER LEGISLATION!

"The interning of people without charge or trial is wrong and can never be justified. We call upon the Red Cross to push for the immediate abolishment of the sinister British legislation which permits it, if they are really sincere in their profession of concern for the mental and physical well being of their fellowmen."

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By our own Staff Reporter

THE DEMISE OF THE UDA

The derisory statement issued by the British Army following the U.D.A. claim that several hundred of their men had "sealed off part of the border" was a final kick to a dying group. If, in fact, the U.D.A. are not dead; then we can assume that rigor mortis is not far off.

What was once a strong para-military army of tens of thousands of men, is now a splintered organisation consisting of many small murder gangs. Internal tension is running high among the various arms of the "U.D.A." This week alone has seen two shootings involving warring factions of the once powerful U.D.A.

What happened?

Why did the Ulster Defence Association rumble at a time when the leadership of that group had forced the British Government to talk to them over counter at Stormont?

We must cast our minds back to March 1971 before the answers to the above questions can be answered.

It was in that month that almost 10,000 Protestant workers, left their benches and walked behind sectarian bigots like Billy Hull en route to the City Hall. At a mass meeting a call went out from the platform for internment to be introduced, the call was wildly received by the crowd (some of whom are now locked up behind the barbed wire of Long Kesh.)

Ian Paisley, who had earlier called for internment to be used against the Republican guerrillas caused a storm in "Loyalist" circles when he issued a statement, presumably penned by Desmond Boal, in which he opposed the whole principle of locking a man up without a trial of any sort.

Paisley hadn't suddenly taken on a humanitarian outlook, the fact was that the Reverend Ian had foreseen the possibility of Protestants ending up in an internment camp.

In August of 1971 most newspapers reported an underground recruiting campaign which was in full swing in all Protestant areas of the Six Counties, notably Belfast. Protestants were being enlisted in area Platoons to destroy the enemies of "Romanism" and "Communism." "We must prepare now, this is total war" went the enlistment cry.

To Republicans it was clear that the British counter insurgency hierarchy were behind the plan to form "counter-gangs," tactics used by the British in all of their colonial wars.

By September the many local "Defenced" associations which existed in every Loyalist area came together under the leadership of Charles Harding-Smyth, a founder member of the Woodvale Defence Group. Smith's lieutenants were Tommy Herron, Sammy Smyth, Jim Anderson, Ernie "Duke" Elliott, and Sammy Doyle.

Other leaders of less stature included Englishman David Fogel, who fled the country in terror after being told that he was on the U.D.A.'s assassination list as an "informant," Johnnie Graham, a close friend and associate of John McKeague, and Ernie Willis, a man who was responsible for burning hundreds of Catholic families out of their homes.

A 13 man "Inner Council" was presented to the world press, the bakers dozen of Loyalist Generals and Brigadiers gave several press conferences in which they warned the British Government, the Provisional I.R.A., the Southern Government and Uncle Tom Cobley and all to "leave Ulster alone."

In the first week of the formation of the new Protestant grouping an ultimatum was given to the British army to end the "no go" areas within a week or the U.D.A. would do it themselves. It was clear that the British army were trying to condition the people of the Republican areas and the people of Ireland in general towards accepting a bloodbath when the imperialists finally moved.

When the British army's counter-insurgency elitist wing helped form the U.D.A. "Counter gangs" it was planned that the Protestant militia would be controlled by the British nerve centre in Warminster. Things didn't quite work out that way and the U.D.A. proved to be too hot a handful for Kitson and Co. to handle. Harding-Smith was believed to be the "strong man" of the U.D.A., army intelligence thought that if the leader was removed the lower echelons would crumble in disarray.

Harding-Smith was set up by the English Special Branch, during discussions over an arms deal in London's Hilton Hotel, Harding-Smith and several of his associates were arrested.

With the U.D.A. leader during the swoop were and R.U.C. man, Robert Lusty, notorious for his anti Catholic feelings, John White, Robert Dalzell, and a Belfast arms dealer and former B Special, John Campbell.

During the trial of the five, Lusty was referred to as Mr. 'Z', it was clear that Lusty was instrumental in setting the other four up for the kill. Lusty, predicatably, was discharged in the early stages of the trial. (The other four were acquitted many months later).

Back in Belfast the U.D.A. showed no signs of falling apart, the "chairmanship" of the organisation was taken over by Crumlin Road glazier Jim Anderson, Tommy Herron appeared regularly as the spokesman for the group.

The new leadership took an even more militant stance much to the horror of the British. Herron threatened to erect barricades in every Protestant area of Belfast if the British army didn't move on the Republican ghettos. Whitelaw played on the ego of the Protestant leaders by appealing to them to postpone their threatened assault and leave the "security forces" to deal with the "no go" areas.

Operation Motorman is now past history, with internment in full swing, a massive military presence in all Catholic areas and constant statements from the British Army that "the Provos were on the verge of defeat," Whitelaw and his Tory bosses had no further use for the U.D.A. they were to be jettisoned like driftwood.

Kitson set to work breaking the U.D.A., which he regarded as a drawback in his battle for a "military victory" over the Irish Republican Army.

Mystery shootings began to occur in Loyalist enclaves, an "Anti communist" witch hunt began within the ranks of the Ulster Defence Association, a witch hunt which was to cost "Duke" Elliott, his life.

A circular was distributed in East Belfast on 14th October 1972 claiming that a "socialist orientated and class conscious Protestant group" the name of the group was to be the "Ulster Citizen's Army." Rumour had it that the U.C.A. was an alliance of leftists from the U.D.A. and the I.R.A. Officials. The effect that this news had on the extreme right wing U.D.A. was traumatic. It is clear that the Ulster Citizen's Army was the figment of some British army officer's mind, dare we say Kitson?

Faction fights became a regular occurrence within the depleted and demoralised ranks of the U.D.A., splinter group after splinter group was formed. An S.A.S. gun probably murdered Tommy Herron a few months ago, incidentally, a death notice appeared in the NEWS LETTER from the "Ulster Citizens Army" mourning the death of comrade Herron. The insertion no doubt came from Thiepval Barracks.

The U.D.A. of late 1971 which quickly became a threat to British interests in the Six Counties is no more. The news that Whitelaw has decided to proscribe the "U.F.F." and the "Red Hand Commandoes" will be greeted with as much amusement in Loyalist circles as it was in the Republican ghettos. Both are fragments of the main Ulster Defence Association, a depleted and broken body. The British no longer feel that the U.D.A. is a threat to their policies, the various splinter groups are easy to handle, they can be manipulated at will by the British military in each area.

There is little doubt that the British military intelligence could lift most of the Command Staff of the U.F.F./U.V.F./Red Hand groups at any time. The reason why massive swoops haven't taken place is that the intelligentsia in Warminster are using Loyalist extremists in an attempt to coerce the Catholic population into accepting an imposed political solution to the "Northern problem."

When the Whitelaw/Kitson school decide that the Protestant groups have served their purpose and outlived their usefulness they will break them, just as they broke the U.D.A.



EDENTUBBER COMMEMORATION



MR. SEAN KEENAN, manager of "An Phoblacht," speaking at the memorial. MR. JOE CLARKE, 1916 Veteran, can be seen at right-hand side of picture.

Guard of Honour and Flag Party.

Na Fianna Eireann gave an impressive display of marching at the ceremony. Favourable comments were made about their smart bearing and quick response to commands.

Donal re-elected

DONAL VARIAN (Cork), was re-elected Ard Taoiseach (Chief Scout) at the recent Ard Fheis of Na Fianna Eireann, held in Dublin. The Ard Fheis re-affirmed its allegiance to the Irish Republic and its support for the struggle of the people in the occupied area against foreign oppression.

Among those who attended the Ard Fheis was veteran Joe Clarke, an honorary life-long member of Na Fianna.

