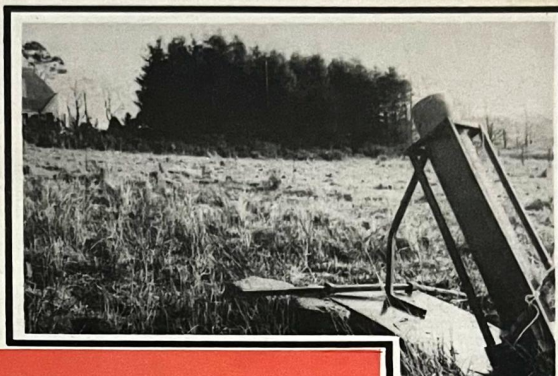


AN  
**PHOBLACHT**  
Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING  
POLITICAL WEEKLY



Sraith Nua Im 8 Ulmhír 3 Deardain Eanáir 16 Thursday January 16th 1986 (Britain 30p) Price 25p



**CARRICKMORE  
MORTAR  
ATTACK**

See page 2

# Keep up the pressure!



• DANNY MORRISON



• JIM McALLISTER



• OWEN CARRON



• FRANK McDOWELL

**A WEEK FROM TODAY (Thursday), voters in 15 constituencies across the six counties will go to the polls. While these by-elections have been planned by the unionist parties as a referendum on the Hillsborough deal, media and public interest will focus on the four marginal constituencies where both Sinn Féin and the SDLP are contesting seats.**

The Hillsborough deal was designed, on a political level, to determine the course of such a contest. The signatories of Hillsborough, Margaret Thatcher and Garret Fitzgerald, may be prepared to ignore the unionist vote but it is certain that they are extremely interested in the contest for nationalist support between Sinn Féin and the SDLP. And no prizes for guessing who they're rooting for!

After all, if the SDLP was to score a significant increase in support at the expense of Sinn Féin, that would indicate increased stability, and stabilising British rule is what Hillsborough is all about. And if the British forces and their allies south of the border were to score significant victories against the Irish Republican Army, that too would indicate increased stability, and Margaret Thatcher and Garret Fitzgerald would be even happier.

Without the destabilising of British rule, for which republicans are responsible, the Westminster government and their Dublin friends could once again safely ignore that tiresome problem which has doggedly refused to go away. Like British governments between 1920 and 1969, and like Dublin governments in the same period, they could push the six counties from their minds.

The SDLP, meanwhile, would slip into the role

of its predecessors in the Nationalist Party, a perpetual minority in a local gerrymandered assembly and an insignificant distraction in the corridors of Westminster. More than the Nationalist Party, however, they would actively help to make British colonial rule work in the six counties. Like Austin Currie in the mid-1970s they would ensure that British law and British order were upheld.

Unfortunately for Margaret Thatcher, Garret Fitzgerald and the SDLP, this scenario will not arise because Sinn Féin is not going to go away and it is quite clear that the IRA is certainly not going to be defeated.

## THE SDLP LIE

Sinn Féin will attract the support of a steadily growing percentage of nationalist people because these people see through the SDLP lie that constitutional methods bring change. They recognise that without the electoral challenge which Sinn Féin poses, and without the firepower of the IRA, there would be no change.

As for the SDLP claim that, by signing the Hillsborough deal, Britain has shown that it has no strategic interests in Ireland — are they joking or can they seriously believe that the British government is merely a referee in Ireland for the good of all our health? Not many nationalists will swallow that lie.

And then there is the growing realisation amongst nationalists that there is a lot of talk, talk, talk about the benefits of the Hillsborough deal, but where are the results? Far from benefitting nationalists, the deal has meant increased and obvious repression. Side by side with this repression, Dublin, London and the SDLP are bending over backwards to reassure the unionists that their position is not threatened.

## LOYALIST VETO STRONGER THAN EVER

Peter Barry told RTE viewers on Tuesday night that the position of unionists had been "copper-fastened" by the deal, echoing what Sinn Féin has been saying all along. And who can deny that the loyalist veto is stronger than ever — the same loyalist veto which the SDLP has always described as the major obstacle to progress.

All these points are becoming clearer to the nationalist population in the six counties and, contrary to pro-Hillsborough media reports, there has been no great enthusiasm for that deal from any quarter, least of all from the stalwart nationalist people who endure British repression on a daily basis.

For them the Republican Movement is the force for change, because every deal, every forum, every assembly which has been concocted by Britain and its allies over the past 16 years is a response to the destabilising pressure which the risen nationalist people have maintained against British rule.

Keep up that pressure and, slowly but surely, the entire edifice of British rule will come tumbling down. Vote Sinn Féin!

**Bloody Sunday** **March & Rally**  
**DERRY**

**Sunday 26th January**  
Assemble 2.30pm Creggan Shops  
March usual route to Free Derry Corner  
Main speaker Jim McAllister





# OPINION

## Section 31

EVERY YEAR since 1972, successive governments in the twenty-six counties have renewed that order under the Broadcasting Act which allows them the power to censor the political content of radio and television programmes broadcast by Radio Telefís Éireann.

Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act is renewed in January each year and this year will be no exception, even though the leader of the present Coalition government was himself a strong opponent of this undemocratic legislation when it was first introduced by Fianna Fáil.

As for Fianna Fáil, they now claim that they never intended that the censorship imposed by the Act should apply to Sinn Féin elected representatives. Such hypocritical and lying rubbish! For years under Fianna Fáil administrations duly-elected Sinn Féin councillors in the twenty-six counties were denied access to RTE even to talk about the state of roads in their areas!

By banning Sinn Féin under Section 31, both government and opposition in the twenty-six counties have demonstrated their contempt for free speech. Their object has been to silence the voice of Irish republicanism, but while they have undoubtedly hindered that voice they have failed to silence it.

Today, ten years after the party was proscribed from RTE broadcasts by Conor Cruise O'Brien, Sinn Féin can point to the fact that republicanism enjoys more popular electoral support in the South today than it did at any other time in the past 16 years.

Without the hindrance of censorship, the support would undoubtedly increase and that is why neither the Coalition nor Fianna Fáil are over-anxious to lift the ban. However, in recent months they have been coming under increasing pressure due, in no small part, to the efforts of the Repeal Section 31 Committee and, indeed, a new commitment amongst journalists themselves to challenge Section 31.

These developments have highlighted the issue of censorship and should be welcomed not only by republicans but by all those who claim to uphold freedom of speech.

## Bribery and corruption

READERS of this paper will view with some cynicism the recent 'revelations' of elected representatives being offered bribes by the big-business interests who run gambling arcades in towns and cities around the twenty-six counties.

In *AP/RN* on October 31st, we reported attempts by arcade owners with connections in the Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael parties to bribe Carlow Sinn Féin's Councillor Kieran Foley into ending his opposition to the arcades. Foley was offered £10,000 per year for the five-year life of the council.

It emerged at the weekend that gambling barons have a fund of £250,000 to bribe elected representatives in order to ensure that new laws governing the gambling arcades do not threaten their huge profits. A ruling of the Free State Supreme Court before Christmas forced the authorities to implement the provisions of the 1965 Gambling & Lotteries Act which limits stakes in slot machines to 2p and winnings to 50p.

The politicians have long been in the pay of these people. That is why they were allowed to operate illegally for so long. Several gaming arcades around the twenty-six counties are owned by elected politicians. As we reported in October, one of the Carlow arcades is owned by a Fianna Fáil councillor. Another councillor in that party, Sean McEniff, is secretary of the Amusement Caterers Association.

Bribery and political favouritism in this area is nothing new. The £5,000 allegedly paid into a Fine Gael election fund in Dublin may prove to be but the tip of the iceberg.

Demands to have gaming arcades closed down are no threat to the amenities of any area. They go hand in hand with demands for real amenities and services where they are most needed — in working-class areas.



• The mortar used in the IRA's attack on Carrickmore Barracks on Monday night

# British frustration grows

SINCE the Newry mortar attack in February last year, British ministers and generals alike have been forced to admit that there is no way to stop IRA mortars raining in on their barracks. The attack on Carrickmore RUC/British army base on Monday night, January 13th, underlines this admission of tactical defeat.

Although extra British troops have been sent into Carrickmore in recent weeks, an active service unit from the Tyrone Brigade IRA was able to get within striking distance of Carrickmore Barracks on Monday last.

At 6.20 in the evening, just after a storm had blacked out the village, a single 100lb mortar was fired from a position close to the barracks, scoring a direct hit on a prefabricated building used by RUC and British army personnel. One British soldier was injured and a number of RUC men were lucky to escape with their lives.

In a statement supplied after the attack, the IRA in Tyrone explained how a 'heavily-armed active service unit had taken up position around the barracks waiting on the British and RUC coming out after the attack'. However, it was later learned that no crown force personnel left the barracks for at least four hours after the mortar attack.

It would seem that despite extra British reinforcements being drafted in to thwart such attacks and protect their emplacements, they have no defences to stop IRA mortar attacks.

The fact that recent IRA strategy seems to be so successful underlines the weakness of British rule in Ireland. They are forced to rely on fortified barracks, sophisticated weapons and oppression to maintain any semblance of colonial rule. But no matter how many weapons or soldiers they send in, the reality is that they are losing.

In 1976 they began to 'Ulsterise' the Irish war; today, ten years later, they are back to sending increasing numbers of British troops in, but still the IRA strike whenever and wherever they decide.

As British ministers and chiefs admit that there is no way to stop IRA mortars, it seems inevitable that there is no way they can stop the IRA. And as morale continues



to slump in their armed forces they are increasingly forced to face the fundamental question, 'when will we withdraw and how?'

### LURGAN WARNING

Meanwhile, in Lurgan, the North Armagh Brigade of the IRA have issued a strong warning that a gang of hoods will be dealt with unless they desist from their anti-social activities. The IRA said:

"A number of individuals in the Lurgan area have been carrying out robberies and threatening people while using the name 'IRA'. We, the IRA in this area, have no part in this thuggery and gangsterism and we shall take action against those who are involved."



# By-election campaign underway

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

**THE NORTH'S by-election campaign began in earnest at the weekend with 41 candidates contesting the 15 seats. Unionist 'Ulster Says No' candidates are standing in all 15 constituencies while Sinn Féin and the SDLP are fielding candidates in the four constituencies with nationalist majorities. Alliance announced their five candidates while the Workers Party is fielding nine. Finally there are the four 'Peter Barrys'.**

The Alliance Party's stance in these elections is 'woolly' to say the least. Alliance opposes the unionist campaign, supports the link with Britain and gives a cautious welcome to the Hillsborough deal. But internal disagreements over their approach to that deal have prevented the party fielding more candidates.

This came as a disappointment to the unionist 'Ulster Says No' allies who found that, even though Alliance and Workers Party between them were obligingly contesting most constituencies, there were still four uncontested seats. Enter the mystery unionist who buried his pride and, shrouded in secrecy, changed his name by deed poll to Peter Barry to create a sham contest in four constituencies.

## 'SOLIDARITY'

The 15 unionist candidates launched their campaign on Tuesday, January 14th, with a new 'Unionist Solidarity' logo looking strangely like its Polish namesake. And while large 'Ulster Says No' banners were floating on most unionist-dominated council halls across the North, the two unionist leaders Ian Paisley and James Molyneux explained to the press assembled at Stormont that all they wanted was "equal rights for British citizens". Replying to an attack by British direct-ruler Tom King, they said they did not just say 'no'. They also said 'yes': yes to the union with Britain, yes to the presence of British troops, yes to the maintenance of unionist supremacy.

King's attack had come just an hour before the unionist press conference. And his stressing of his government's decision to carry on with the London-Dublin agreement, regardless of the outcome of the by-elections, predictably gave the unionists some mileage to spoof about 'democracy' and the 'rule of the ballot'. Throughout their campaign the unionists have been pointing out to their troops the link between IRA actions and concessions that may result from the London-Dublin deal.

In fact, unionists are well placed to know that force works since force or the threat of force is how they've always got their way since 1912 — with a little help from the British establishment, of course.

## NEGLECTED

As for the SDLP, all this venom heaped upon Sinn Féin has left them

feeling neglected, and throughout last week the four SDLP candidates tried to convince voters that, in the words of Seamus Mallon, "The SDLP is the real challenge to unionists."

McGrady challenged Powell to come out and say whether he accepts the UDA's support. Adrian Colton asked McCrea to condemn the UDA and the UVF. As for Currie, he could not resist attacking Sinn Féin by calling them "fellow travellers of the unionists". There is a double irony in the SDLP's electoral stance. The SDLP's past is littered with examples of collaboration with and even kow-towing to unionists, in the local councils in particular, not to mention Stormont in 1973-74. But stranger still is this targeting of unionists by a party which speaks of a new dawn for reconciliation with those same unionists.

## EARLY DEMISE

Meanwhile, the Inter-Governmental Conference had its third meeting on Friday, January 10th, in London, much to the unionists' delight. A conference which purports to rule over the North and cannot even meet there, they pointed out, is "doomed to an early demise". Echoes of the conference were duly relayed for the benefit of the voters in the six counties. Free State foreign affairs minister Peter Barry in particular hinted at all sorts of reforms which were being "considered". The list was indeed impressive: the Flags & Emblems Act, the Irish language, show-trials, the RUC complaints procedure and code of conduct.

But a closer reading of the joint statement clarified it somewhat. This list of possible reforms had only been mentioned by the Dublin side. London, represented by Tom King and Nicholas Scott, had stressed the need to move on extradition. The conference then asked the permanently-appointed officials to "keep discussing" those points. So nothing concrete has yet emerged — except more repression.

Garda chief Wren attended the conference to give a report on the border build-up, especially the arrival in border areas of a strengthened garda Task Force. RUC chief Hermon was also present at the conference. There had been an RUC-Garda meeting in Dublin two days before. As far as repression was concerned, the new conference was, it seemed, moving briskly.

So in spite of Barry's attempt to fool

Northern nationalist voters into believing that reforms are around the corner, increased harassment, especially in border areas, is all they are getting from the deal so far. As for the manna from the United States — which from one press report to the next had dwindled from "\$1 billion" to "\$400 million" to "\$250 million over ten years" — visiting US congressmen hinted last week in Dublin that its release could depend on Dublin agreeing to take sanctions against Libya along with the US.

Sinn Féin's Mitchel McLaughlin, commenting on Tuesday, January 14th, on this latest development, remarked that it was "clear that both Britain and the US view the Hillsborough agreement as another structure through which they can strengthen and broaden their own interests and allegiances at the expense of the Irish people". He added that it was likely, anyway, that, in the event of US cash aid, Thatcher would withdraw British funding in proportion and cause further hardship to Northern nationalists.







● It's hard to hide dole queues such as this one in Dun Laoghaire, but the Dublin government certainly tries hard

# Unemployment figures sky-rocket

BY DONAL LYONS

AN UNPRECEDENTED 11,818 people joined the dole queues in the twenty-six counties during the month of December 1985. This jump exceeds the total allowed for by the Dublin government in their budget estimates for unemployment expenditure during the whole of 1986.

The total registered unemployed in the Free State now stands at 239,867, but the true figure is much higher. To this must be added those people whose unemployment is hidden by short-term 'training schemes' run by AnCO etc. During the course of 1985 a total of 66,350 people took part in these various schemes, and a further 5,500 are currently engaged in the Social Employment Scheme.

As there is a consistent level of participation in these schemes, the true unemployment figure must be at least 311,700.

\*\*\*

The Irish Sugar Company is going ahead with its plans to lay off 240 permanent workers at its Thurles and Tuam plants from Friday, January 17th. The lay-off — supposed to be of one month's duration in Thurles and two months in Tuam — is designed to save the company £100,000, according to management.

The closure decision was taken by top management without consultation with the board of directors, which includes four worker-directors. There has been an outraged reaction from both workers and their unions who were taken completely by surprise when the company decision was made known.

The closure is being regarded by workers and the local communities as a threat to the continued operation of the factories and a major blow to farming and the general economy of the region. For this reason a campaign to defeat the close-down is being launched and, if necessary, they will carry their protest "to the streets of Dublin".

\*\*\*

In a major blow to the West Cork town of Schull, a liquidator has been appointed to the Bolhea Fisheries factory. The closure will mean the loss of 15 full-time and 50 part-time jobs. The factory was established in 1977 to process crab for the export market. Schull was also hit recently by the closure of Gregg Coughlan Construction Ltd, which employed about 100 people in the building industry.

\*\*\*

A strike by Cork's 600 municipal workers has been deferred for a month to allow for negotiations. The deferral decision was taken by a two-to-one majority at a mass meeting in Connolly Hall on Sunday, January 12th.

If the strike goes ahead it will affect services such as water supplies, refuse collection, house building and road repairs.



● Mackies on Belfast's Springfield Road: moving to staunchly loyalist Woodvale

At the root of the dispute is a parity claim by the Cork workers with their Dublin colleagues. The Dublin municipal workers enjoy a £23 per week meal and travel allowance.

\*\*\*

The mayor of Dublin, Fianna Fail member Jim Tunney, has claimed that the recently-closed Finglas factory, Storage Technology, can't be re-opened because a nearby travellers' camp is "dirty and decayed" and presents "security problems".

In a hard-hitting statement Sinn Féin area representative Harry Fleming condemned Tunney:

"The facts are that both Jim Tunney and the IDA are embarrassed by the collapse of Storage Technology and their inability to find a replacement. They are now trying to divert the justifiable anger of Finglas's unemployed by attacking one of the most vulnerable sections of Irish society and using the travellers as scapegoats."

\*\*\*

More than 200 workers in the Shann-

on bus-building company, GAC (Ireland) Ltd, formerly Bombardier, are to be laid off from Friday, January 24th.

The lay-offs are a direct result of the Dublin government's failure to allocate funds to CIE for their 1986 school bus programme.

\*\*\*

In protest at the planned axing of 100 teaching jobs by the British government, the Association of University Teachers (AUT) has called their first-ever strike.

The one-day stoppage by lecturers at Queens's University and the University of Ulster on Wednesday, January 15th, had the support of the two students' unions as well as the ASTMS-organised clerical staff. The stoppage is being viewed by the unions as the first in a series of "disruptive actions" aimed at highlighting the "serious lack of funding" available to universities.

ASTMS official Roger Geary points out that since 1981 there has been a 10% cut in spending which has had a detrimental effect on "the quality and accessibility of higher education". Geary stresses that the union is not only seeking to protect

members' jobs but to ensure that young people wishing to go to university can do so.

\*\*\*

In their pre-budget submission to the Dublin finance minister, the ICTU argues that all the money available for tax relief should be confined to the PAYE sector. The Congress representatives point out that the burden of direct taxation borne by PAYE workers has become intolerable.

Over 40% of those paying income tax were liable to tax at rates in excess of the standard rate and a single person on the average male industrial wage now has a marginal tax rate of 68.5%. A married person on the same income was liable to tax at a marginal rate of 43.5%.

On the jobs front, the delegation demanded that the public construction programme be stepped up and that the embargo on public service recruitment be eased. The ICTU argues that the job-creation programme could be financed by re-organising subsidies to industry and farmers.

\*\*\*

There are strong rumours in Sligo that the JWI joinery factory based in Collooney, County Sligo, is to close. There are over 100 workers presently employed at the plant.

\*\*\*

On Monday, January 13th, Sinn Féin Councillor Alex Maskey responded to the current controversy surrounding the proposed re-location of Mackies engineering from the nationalist Springfield Road site to the loyalist Woodvale area, a move which will inevitably mean redundancies for the firm's very few Catholic workers.

Maskey described the move as a continuation of the firm's policy of discrimination against Catholic workers:

"The area into which the firm intends to move has for many years been a wasteland for Catholic workers and residents as the area has been a sectarian black-spot since the early 70s."

"This latest move will almost certainly force more Catholics from employment in Mackies, rendering those particular workers unemployable in the current jobless situation."



# SECTARIAN MURDER IN LIGONIEL

BY NUALA DOHERTY

**LEO SCULLION (50), a married man with two children, from Linen Grove, Ligoniel, was found dead on Tuesday, January 14th, in the Ligoniel Working Men's Club where he had been employed as a night security guard.**

He was bound hand and foot before being shot through the head at point-blank range. A cushion found close to his body is believed to have been used by the assassins to muffle the sound of the shot.

## HALLMARKS

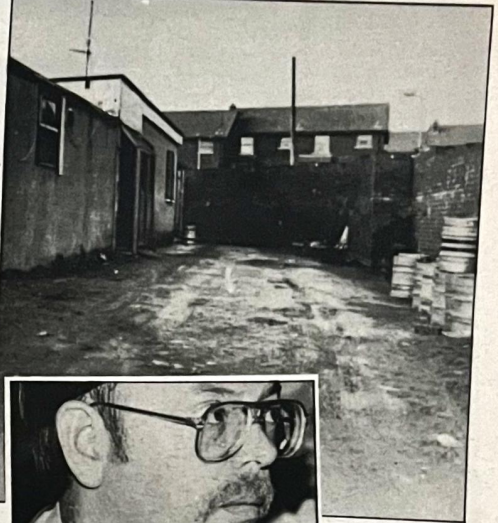
The murder "bore all the

hallmarks of a sectarian assassination" said North Belfast Sinn Féin Councillor Gerard McGuigan. He also hit out at unionist politicians. Their recent statements, intended to help whip loyalists into a frenzy over the London-Dublin agreement, "have no doubt played a significant role in

this brutal deed," he said.

Friends and neighbours of Leo Scullion also believe the murder was purely sectarian. Almost four years ago, the former club chairperson, Francie McCloskey, was shot dead on his way to work, and there have been assassination attempts on other nationalist club members.

Gerard McGuigan in his statement called on the people of Ligoniel and all nationalists to be vigilant in the coming weeks in the run-up to polling day, Thursday, January 23rd.



● (Above) Ligoniel Working Men's Club. (Left) Gerard McGuigan

# Murder bid on Down nationalist

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

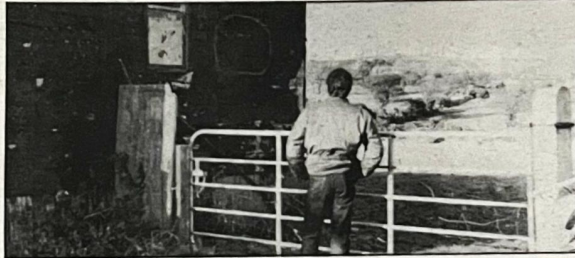
**A UDR MAN is being questioned by the RUC in connection with the attempted murder of a nationalist in Dundrum, County Down, on Saturday, January 11th.**

John O'Rourke (34), an aerial erector from Newcastle, narrowly escaped death when a masked loyalist gunman shot him at close range.

O'Rourke, who is secretary of Green Cross in Newcastle, received a telephone call from a pay-phone on Friday, January 3rd. The caller arranged to have an aerial erected on a house on the old road between Dundrum and Newcastle. O'Rourke subsequently called to the house and left a note on the door cancelling the arrangement which had been agreed with the telephone caller.

A week later, on Saturday morning, January 11th, O'Rourke received another "very plausible telephone call" asking him to return to the Dundrum house at 2pm that afternoon to erect the aerial.

On his way to the house, O'Rourke was



● Scene of the assassination attempt on John O'Rourke

stopped by the RUC's Divisional Mobile Support Unit at Maghera and delayed for 20 minutes. When he eventually arrived at the house, later than the arranged time, he noticed a car, containing two men, driving away.

## SHOTGUN

As he walked around to the rear of the house, O'Rourke turned around and saw a

man approach him carrying a shotgun. Although the man wore a black mask, O'Rourke recognised him as one of the two men he had seen in the car because of the black anorak which he wore. Recounting what happened, O'Rourke told AP/RN:

"I tried to jump over a gate leading into a field. He was about 15 yards from me. As I got onto the gate he fired one shot which caught me on the right side of the head and

knocked me over the gate."

A concrete gate-post obscured the gunman's view and gave O'Rourke precious seconds to stagger to his feet and hobble across a field. Again the gunman fired, this time hitting him in the buttocks and left leg.

O'Rourke managed to drag himself towards a barbed-wire fence which he threw himself over. As he did so, the gunman fired again, this time missing his target.

Running as best he could, O'Rourke crossed another field and eventually alerted a local woman who telephoned for an ambulance. He was taken to Down Hospital where numerous shotgun pellets were removed from his body.

Frank McDowell, the Sinn Féin candidate in South Down, condemned this blatantly sectarian attack. He pointed to the link between increased UDR harassment in the Newcastle area and the questioning of a UDR man about the O'Rourke shooting. He also warned nationalists to be extra vigilant and not to provide UDR patrols with unnecessary information when stopped at checkpoints or on the street.

# Targets for harassment

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

**SINN FÉIN'S election workers are, as usual, the targets of crown force harassment in this as in other elections in the past. There have been countless incidents of petty harassment and several arrests in the past week, a pattern which will doubtless be repeated in the days ahead.**

Derry Sinn Féin Councillor Hugh Brady had his car impounded by the RUC outside Strabane on Saturday night, January 11th. Brady, accompanied by three election workers, was on his way from Castlederg to Derry following a church-gate meeting. All four were ordered from the car by the RUC and had to stand in the pouring rain for 30 minutes while the car was

thoroughly searched. They were then informed the vehicle was being taken to Fort George Barracks for a further unnecessary search. The four Sinn Féiners were left at the side of the road.

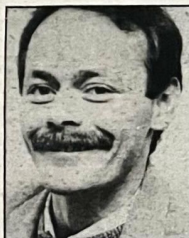
In Belfast, that afternoon, Tom Hartley was stopped by the RUC on the Glen Road. He refused to open his coat and was held for almost an hour while the RUC examined Sinn Féin

election papers.

In South Down on Sunday, the "unaccompanied" UDR have been doing their "follow the leader" bit by shadowing and harassing Sinn Féin candidate Frank McDowell's election workers. In Ardgliss later that day, canvass workers were detained for half an hour by the RUC.

## CHECKPOINT

On Saturday night, Sinn Féin Councillor Seamas Kerr and Sean Begley, election agent for Danny Morrison, were held at a checkpoint for one and a half hours. Begley has been detained two or three times



● HUGH BRADY

each day. On Monday night, Danny Morrison was also stopped for an hour by the RUC on his way home from an election meeting in Carr-



● TOM HARTLEY

ickmore. In Sinn Féin candidate Jim McAllister's area, Newry Sinn Féin election worker Fergie McArdle was arres-

ted from his home on Tuesday morning, January 14th, under Section 12. The previous day, four Crossmaglen Sinn Féin election workers were arrested. And on Wednesday, January 15th, Armagh city Sinn Féin Councillor Tommy Carroll, Sinn Féin six-county executive vice-chairperson Joe Austin, and Sinn Féin member Stephen Fields, were held for an hour in Armagh city on their way to an appointment at Armagh Post Office to deliver "free post" envelopes. All three were pushed and punched by several members of the UDR patrol.



Phot/fiera



BY JANE PLUNKETT

AS THE APPEAL case opened of 22 North Belfast men convicted on the sole word of paid-perjurer Christopher Black, a member of an internationally-recognised lawyers' group has condemned the show-trials system as a "disguised form of internment".

Michele Bonnechere, a law lecturer at Paris University and well-known in France as a human rights campaigner, added that she was "frankly disturbed" by the fact that now only nationalists are being held on so-called 'supergrass' evidence.

Michele Bonnechere is part of a delegation sent by the International Association of Democratic Lawyers to observe the Black appeal, which began in Belfast's Crumlin Road Courthouse on Monday morning and is expected to last for several weeks. The association is recognised and consulted by the United Nations, and the delegation sent to Belfast contains lawyers from France, the USA and Britain.

Bonnechere, who put the association's criticisms of alleged accomplice evidence in a private interview with top colonial judge Lord Lowry last week, later expressed extreme surprise at the massive RUC presence in the North's courts. "We know such court situations exist in other countries such as Chile and Turkey," she told the *Irish Times*, "but to see it in Belfast under British law is different."

Bonnechere, who also criticised the large number of defendants in most show-trials, said that in the North, people's lack of belief in the legal system was "really visible". She added, "And it is not just the public. Members of the legal profession here have expressed to me their disillusionment... Personally I can't understand how they could have any sense of justice working within such practices."

#### COMPLICITY

Meanwhile, the complicity of the Northern judiciary in the paid-perjurer system was highlighted on Monday in the opening hours of the Black appeal.

# LAWYER SLAMS SHOW-TRIALS

● Paid-perjurer Christopher Black



A defence lawyer pointed out that Diplock Judge Basil Kelly, who heard the original trial, had publicly stated, as early as the 15th day of the 120-day hearing, that he had decided to accept

Black's testimony. This was before he had heard any evidence from defence witnesses.

If a jury had been present, a judge would have been expected to warn members not to form a conclusion at such an early stage of the trial, the defence lawyer, James McSparran, said.

He added that Kelly had "repeatedly" taken a "lenient" view of Black's inconsistencies, contradictions and lies in the witness box.

#### BEATEN

It emerged on Wednesday that two of the defendants in the Black appeal were badly kicked and beaten in Crumlin Road Jail on Tuesday evening.

Some hours earlier, Paul O'Neill and Paddy Teer had been vindictively placed in punishment cells for allegedly refusing to leave the dock at the end of the day's court hearing. In fact, they had delayed briefly to say goodbye to relatives who had been observing the appeal all day.

The beatings took place shortly after 7.30pm when seven prison warders entered the two men's cells in turn and kicked and punched both repeatedly about the body.

The attacks were strongly condemned by local Sinn Féin Councillor Gerard McGuigan who pointed out, "The stress of the appeal hearing is quite bad enough for these men and their families, without having further hardship imposed upon them."

## SDLP council backsliding

DANNY MORRISON has challenged the decision by the SDLP chairperson of Magherafelt District Council to refuse to allow discussion on a motion by Sinn Féin councillors that the Union flag be replaced by the Tricolour on council buildings.

Council chairperson Paddy Sweeney had stated that the Tricolour could be seen by some as "the flag of another country". However, Morrison pointed out that Sweeney's explanation "is at variance with the current enthusiasm of the SDLP leadership at the prospects of some minor revisions of the Flags and Emblems Act".

Morrison added:

"Perhaps Mr Sweeney thinks it is a little premature for the nationalist people of Magherafelt to hold their heads up."

#### BACKSLIDING

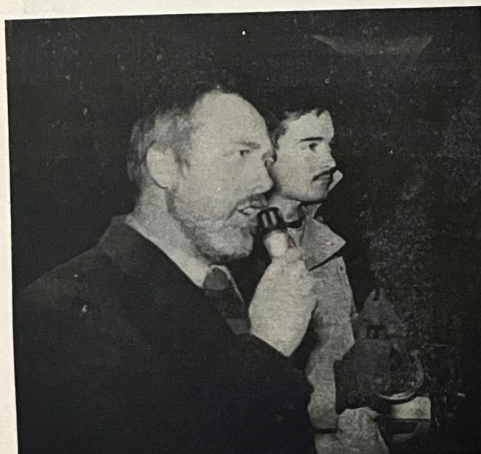
At Strabane on Tuesday night, the issue of apartheid produced another similar case of SDLP backsliding.

At the meeting, Sinn Féin councillors proposed that the council should withdraw an invitation to rugby player Willie John McBride to open a new leisure centre because of his involvement in rugby tours to South Africa.

However, the motion was defeated by the combined votes of two SDLP councillors and two In-

dependents. Because of the Hillsborough boycott, no loyalists were present. Another SDLP councillor, Paul O'Hare, conventionally left the meeting before the vote was taken, though not before he had been reminded that at the recent SDLP conference effusive support was expressed for the African National Congress.

Following Tuesday night's council meeting, local Sinn Féin councillors pledged to take part in anti-apartheid protests on Monday when McBride is due to open officially the new Derg Valley Leisure Centre in Castlederg.



● DANNY MORRISON & OISTIN MAC GIOLLA BHRIGHDE





BY JANE PLUNKETT

SINN FEIN'S campaign for next Thursday's Westminster elections was launched at a large press conference in West Belfast on Tuesday afternoon.

On the platform were three of Sinn Féin's four candidates: Danny Morrison (Mid-Ulster), Jim McAllister (Newry/Armagh) and Frank McDowell (South Down). The fourth candidate, Owen Carron (Fermanagh/South Tyrone), who had been incarcerated throughout the previous month on trumped-up charges, was absent and was represented on the platform by Paul Corrigan, Sinn Féin chairperson of Fermanagh District Council. (Carron was freed later that day on temporary bail until January 25th, two days after polling day.)

The press conference was chaired by West Belfast MP Gerry Adams, Sinn Féin's president, who opened the proceedings by reading the party's election address.

Sinn Féin, said Adams, enters the election "on our proven record of political resistance to the British presence and our rejection, as a matter of democratic principle, of the loyalist veto."

"Sinn Féin is contesting this election on republican policies. Our demands remain unchanged: rejection of the loyalist veto; disbandment of the RUC and UDR and the withdrawal of the British army; the release of all political prisoners; an end to partition, and national self-determination for the Irish people."

#### LOYALIST VETO

Explaining Sinn Féin's principled rejection of the loyalist veto, Adams said that loyalists "are entitled, like the rest of us, to full equality, civil and reli-

gious liberty, in a national democracy". But as a national minority, he continued, they have no right to "a position of privilege and dominance" or to forestall national democracy.

"The British connection and its colonial institutions and policies and their consequences are undemocratic. Any resolution of the current conflict must be based, therefore, upon a strategy of decolonisation, and of restoring the right of national self-determination to the Irish people."

Seen in this context, Adams continued, the Hillsborough accord was a "carrot and stick agreement, a mixture of repression and appeasements" in reaction to Sinn Féin's growing popular election successes.

"Republicans are well used to repression and will continue to defy any efforts to subdue us by coercive means. Equally we will not be wooed by any concessions. If they contain meaningful improvements in the lifestyles of nationalist people, we will welcome them as the result of the soundness of our supporters. They will not come, if they come at all, out of any concern on the part of the Thatcher government for Irish nationalists but as an attempt to undermine the political base of Sinn Féin, to neutralise all opposition to partition and to defeat the IRA."

"More importantly, the agreement institutionalises the British presence. It seeks to legitimise it and to insulate the British government from international

criticism of their involvement in Irish affairs. No Irish institution, government or otherwise, has the right to sign any treaty with Britain which encroaches, as does the Hillsborough agreement, on any aspect of Irish sovereignty."

#### SDLP LEADERSHIP

The SDLP leadership was the object of several trenchant and cogent criticisms in Sinn Féin's election statement, which pointed out:

"Had the SDLP leadership been interested in overall nationalist interests, they would have consulted their grassroots about our offer of a boycott or of coming to an agreement", which would have left the loyalists with 11 seats instead of 15.

The SDLP leadership have maintained a "guilty silence on the ongoing harassment of our campaign workers", said Adams, and in attacking Sinn Féin they "have conveniently ignored the fact that a wide body of Irish nationalist opinion, North and South, including Fianna Fáil and elements within the SDLP itself, are critical of the terms of the Hillsborough agreement. Rather than Sinn Féin running in tandem with the loyalists, it is the SDLP whose colours are clearly and desperately tied to the mast of Mrs Thatcher's agreement." Supporters of the agreement "are actually undermining Irish re-unification", he added.

Loyalist reaction to Hillsborough was described as "entirely predictable" by Adams, who went on to condemn "the

hypocrisy of those who support an agreement for which there is no loyalist consent, but who continually lecture republicans that the breaking of the British connection cannot come about without that same unionist consent".

Adams continued:

"We do not believe that the Hillsborough agreement will work. It certainly will not deliver Irish unity. And without Irish unity and independence there can be no stability, whether social, economic or political, on this island or in the relationship between Britain and Ireland."

Reiterating Sinn Féin's principled and democratic demands, Adams concluded:

"Our election successes underline, clearly and internationally, the demand of the Irish people for freedom and independence. We appeal to the nationalist people to keep up the pressure. They will do this on January 23rd by voting for Owen Carron, Frank McDowell, Danny Morrison and Jim McAllister."

#### POSITIVE

The press conference continued with Sinn Féin's candidates discussing the political mood in their areas. Once again, the positive and progressive nature of Sinn Féin's campaign was in the forefront. Canvassers in all areas had reported "a very healthy response" to Sinn Féin's campaign, reported Gerry Adams, who added that Sinn Féin would be very satisfied at the end of the election if the republican share of the vote is maintained.

Questioned once again on the current political situation, Adams described the Hillsborough agreement as "one of a long line of British options."

"The British have been going for another option and another option and another option and when this latest option fails they'll have to go for yet another option."

"But eventually they will come round to the only sensible option, and that is to restore to the Irish people the right to national self-determination."





## Pride and determination

FOR the seventh time in five years, the practised election machine stuttered faithfully into life, slowly at first but with increasing vigour and a sense of purpose. From Lough Macnean in the west to the shores of Lough Neagh 60 miles to the east, they begin reporting in from every parish, village and housing estate. Old veterans who in the bloom of their youth had delivered victory to Phil Clarke in 1955, young veterans tempered by the heat of every campaign since the Bobby Sands by-election, and youthful novices eager to claim their place in history, flock to the colours in support of Owen Carron, a young Fermanagh man who has united the generations and transformed republicanism in the constituency into an effective, respected cohesive political force.

It's Saturday morning and the Sinn Féin offices and various local centres are hives of activity. Postering such a vast tract of territory, difficult at the best of times, is now, with sleet and hailstones lashing down, almost hazard. Undaunted, the Datsun truck, a veteran, is about to roll down Market Street and off into the great

outback that is Fermanagh/South Tyrone.

A last-minute check is made on ladders, hammers, posters etc. Already Brian sits grim-faced behind the wheel, his expression mirroring an inner determination to see a long hard day's work done and done well. Squeezed in beside him are Andy and Tubby, both with equal resolution and sense of purpose. Huddled on the back, ex-

posed to the elements, big Big Joe and Gerry 'Snout', their yellow farm boots protruding from underneath their heavy great-coats, and their granite faces indicating a commitment that has never wavered in all the hard years of campaigning. Final instructions are given while Brian 'rears' the engine. Someone shouts, "Beware of men carrying vacuum cleaners!"

They laugh at this reference to the day an ex-RUC man opened up on the truck in 1981 with a salvo of bird-shot. His explanation that he only pointed his vacuum cleaner was, of course, readily accepted by his RUC friends in Enniskillen. Snout's reply is both inaudible and unprintable, but the volume of laughter indicates the theme of his comment. Brian slams the battered Datsun into gear and with that well-known rebel yell she trundles down the street and disappears out onto the Queen Elizabeth Road in a cloud of blue smoke and carbon monoxide fumes. Councillor Maguire sighs

to himself as he watches them disappear. "I don't know what they'll do to the RUC but they sure scare the hell out of me."

### THE BUZZ

Back inside, and every room is alive with the buzz of activity. Arms are moving on automatic pilot in the envelope-addressing department, each one bobbing like a fiddler's elbow in the overcrowded space. On the top floor, Mickey, the director of elections, with his Inner Cabinet advisers and their timetables for the speakers at various church-gate meetings, a task requiring diplomacy, tact, perception and the ability to match the speakers to the ethos of the particular locality.

And so everything is arranged. The programme is mapped out, amplification and transport allotted and recorded on the wall-chart. The director and his aides(!) project the coming week's programme of canvassing, visits to far-flung party reps are prioritised and the publicity department is cranked into gear. Statements to the press are written and re-written, and advertisements framed so that every word will punch home its

message. "Stand fast and win," from down below there is a shout, in the unmistakable townie accent of 'Mexican Jim'. "Hey, you there! The day's ready!"

Papers are shuffled and collected, everyone knows their jobs, everyone will do their duty. Down below the steaming cuppas are swallowed in hurried gulps as time is of the essence — then out they go, muffled against the winter wind, every man and woman determined that while 'The Wee Man' may be up in 'the Crum' they will see that the work is carried on relentlessly.

Down the street the RUC are skulking in the doorways, watching, their Rugers pointing menacingly. The old stalwart from Garrison observes them with his beady eye as he leaves the office. "Nobody gives a damn about them," he mutters. "I've seen the time one peeler would frighten everyone off that street. That day is gone forever. We are afraid no more. Nobody gives a damn about them. This is the biggest chance in my life-time and that's why this generation cannot be defeated."

There is pride and determination in his voice.

number of church-gate meetings were held. Tommy Carroll from Armagh city spoke in Keady, Derrynoose and Madden. Tommy had the pleasure of speaking after Seamus Mallon who called on the electorate to reject the unionists. Carroll called on the electorate to reject all unionists, including green ones! The BBC's *Spotlight* team covered McAllister speaking in Cladymore and heard him ask the electorate to give Sinn Féin the unity the SDLP refused and send Thatcher her own message: "Out! Out! Out!"

### CONFIDENT

Canvassing in all areas continued throughout the week. Postering held back deliberately because of the weather, is well under way. Believing that "Ní raib go cur le chéile", a team of Sinn Féin people from Lurgan came to South Armagh on Monday to do the bulk of the postering.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh go leir, a chomrad.

Sinn Féin is confident of retaining its support in the area and, given the fact that there is a disenfranchised element in the SDLP and over 8,000 nationalists who didn't vote at all last time out, who knows what will happen on January 23rd.



is intense. ITN's *News at Ten* and the BBC's *Spotlight* have already been in the area. *Weekend*

World and BBC2's *Newsnight* have also made arrangements to film.

On Sunday morning, a large

## Sweet

SOUTH DOWN is a large constituency of 66,000, stretching from Belfast, across the rolling hills south to the snow-covered towns.

There are several fairly large centres of population, among them Downpatrick, Ballynahinch and Newcastle. However, the constituency is very much a rural one with small towns and villages scattered throughout the area.

As in any election campaign, the first days in South Down were taken up with preparing the organisation getting the 'Free Post' distributed, designing posters and leaflets, and counting the pennies.

## Inter canv

DANNY MORRISON'S electioneering in Mid-Ulster constituted the weekend with intense canvassing.

Morrison held a number of church-gate meetings in Ballymaguigan and South Derry.

Hitting the road bright and early on Sunday morning, church-gate meetings were addressed in Pomeroy, Carrickmore, Greencastle and Loughmacrory. Then it was straight into canvassing in Trillick, Drumquin and Dromore where Morrison proved more popular than his SDLP opponent, Adrian Colton, who's from the town.

By all accounts, the SDLP have been busy wearing out a biro or two attacking Sinn Féin in the local *Ulster Herald*. No less than four out of five statements doing just that this week alone.

## Magic shows in Crossmaglen

THE Newry/Armagh constituency is undoubtedly the most interesting of the 15 seats contested in the by-elections.

The outgoing unionist, 'Invisible Man' Jim Nicholson, had a majority of 1,500 over the SDLP's Seamus Mallon in 1983 with Sinn Féin a further 7,000 behind Mallon. Nicholson, who has hardly been heard of since 1983, will be hoping for an extremely high loyalist turn out including support from the DUP which was not total in 1983. Both he and the SDLP will also be banking on the very high postal vote of over 5,000 compared to 2,500 last time.

The SDLP big-shots are concentrating on North Armagh with the likes of Hume and Alban Maginnis in the area. Last Saturday, in the pouring rain, they had a team postering in Crossmaglen, but not one of them was known in the area. The wetter they got the more

they must have envied Sinn Féin as "Vote McAllister" posters appeared in the windows of estates like Ard Ross as if by magic! Those republicans are a crafty lot!

### NO WEAKENING

Newry Sinn Féin has been campaigning every evening last week and South Armagh and Armagh city began on Saturday. Canvassers return so far show no weakening of the Sinn Féin base and also show a general awareness of the fact that the SDLP spurned Sinn Féin's requests for discussion of an electoral pact to secure nationalist unity.

Harassment, of course, is always with us, with the UDR holding Jim McAllister and another Sinn Féin member for half an hour in Newtownhamilton on Saturday night and the constant stopping and questioning of Sinn Féin workers.

Media interest in Newry/Armagh





# Sweeping through

**H DOWN** is a large sprawling constituency with a rate of 66,000, stretching from the outer suburbs of t, across the rolling drumlins of County Down and to the snow-covered peaks of the Mourne Moun-

re are several fairly large of population, among Downpatrick, Ballyna- and Newcastle. However, constituency is very much a ne with small towns and scattered throughout the

n any election campaign, the is in South Down were taken preparing the organisation, the 'Free Post' distributed, g posters and leaflets, and g the pines.

On Friday, January 10th, Frank McDowell, accompanied by the two other Sinn Fein councillors from South Down, Geraldine Ritchie and Paddy Young, as well as his election agent, Lorraine Canavan, and Ignatius Wynn travelled into Hillsborough — a small County Down town now immortalised in a recent agreement — and handed in his nomination papers.

**THE MOURNES**  
The campaign proper commenced on Saturday in the Mournes. It's a

difficult area at the best of times, with small farms and homes dotted everywhere throughout the mountains. Last weekend was made even more difficult by appalling weather conditions. However, despite high winds and heavy rain which chilled the bones of even the warmest dressed, the canvassers were enthusiastic and set about their job with a vengeance. Doors were rapped, leaflets distributed and commitments to vote Sinn Fein willingly made.

Spirits dropped later in the day when the news broke of an attempted assassination in Dundrum. The shooting of John O'Rourke raised the spectre of a sectarian campaign against nationalists in South Down. However, it was quickly and readily agreed that Sinn Fein should give a lead in this situation and, as well as leafletting and speaking at some churches on the Sunday, it was decided that Newcastle should be immediately canvassed. On Sunday, everything went as planned. The churches were covered and Newcastle was canvassed.

Apart from the expected harassment from the RUC and 'unaccompanied' UDR, all agreed that the signs were encouraging and that the republican electoral base is secure.

Owen Carron (centre) just after being released from Crumlin Road Jail on Tuesday



# Intense canvass

**Y MORRISON'S** election campaign for the nat- Mid-Ulster constituency began in earnest over weekend with intense canvassing in Omagh town.

son held a number of ate meetings in Bally- n and South Derry. g the road bright and n Sunday morning, ate meetings were add- n Pomeroy, Carrick- reen Castle and Lough- n. Then it was straight nassing in Trillick, n and Dromore where proved more popular SDLP opponent, Ad- ton, who's from the

Local Sinn Fein Councillor Tommy McNamee joined the 'DM Team' on Tuesday, canvassing in Plumbridge and Newtownstewart. Nationalists living in the latter area extended a particularly warm welcome as they are frequently subjected to much sectarianism.

And as in every campaign, harassment has been increased with election workers regularly being stopped and detained by the RUC.

This weekend, canvassing begins in the Mid-Tyrone and North Tyrone areas. More than one pair of shoes will no doubt be worn out trudging from door to door in the final days before polling.

# Election fevers

BY GERRY ADAMS

**THE** Mid-Ulster election meeting was almost at an end when the lights went out. Mitchel McLaughlin, the intrepid explorer from Derry, cursed under his breath, longed for Mary Lou (the woman to whom he is married) and signed at Danny Morrison.

"Put your hands up," jacket for you," Tom growled.

"There's a hard way and an easy way," the RUC man suggested.

"I'm still not opening my jacket," Tom snarled...

In Carrickmore, Mitchel groped his way to the end of the meeting.

"I think that was the barracks," someone volunteered.

"I propose the meeting ended," a Derry accent suggested.

Outside Strabane, Hugh 'Alias Duffy' Brady planned his one thousand four hundred and seventy-third arrest.

In the basement of Belfast Prison, Owen Carron congratulated himself on getting out of the elections...

In County Down, Frank McDowell perched himself on a lofty peak, surveying the Kingdom of Mourne,

and watched Denis Donaldson burying his Collie dog below Slieve Donard.

"Funny people these Belfast ones," Frank thought.

Down in South Armagh, Jim McAllister adjusted his moustache.

"Do you think I look like James Connolly, without my glasses?" he enquired of an election poster.

Meanwhile, back on the Glen Road in West Belfast, 94 RUC men wrestled Tom Hartley to the ground.

"I've told youse! You're not getting my jacket!!!!" Tom screamed.

It was getting more and more like an Ard Chomhairle meeting...

Approaching Dungannon, Francis Molloy came upon a UDR roadblock.

"They're not accompanied by the RUC," Paul Corrigan observed.

"I thought they had to be accompanied by members of the SDLP leader-

ship," Frankie mused...

Outside Strabane, Hugh 'Alias Duffy' Brady tricked the RUC into arresting his car...

Nearing Omagh, Mitchel McLaughlin longed for the bright lights of Derry's Bogside.

"Ooh, ooh, I wish I was back home in Derry," he hummed tonelessly to the swish, swish, swish of the windscreen wipers.

In County Down, Denis Donaldson footed another sod over his dog's grave.

"Soldier's are wee," he wept.

"I don't know why he had to do this in the middle of the night," Frank McDowell remarked to a passing sheep.

Outside Crossmaglen, Jim McAllister snuggled against a green South Armagh hillside, brushed his moustache away from his eyes and trained his binoculars on St Patrick's Chapel.

"I'm sure Fr O'Neill is still alive," he muttered.

"The SDLP have got it wrong again... Tiafaidh armagh."

Meanwhile, back on the Glen Road in West Belfast, Tom Hartley karate-chopped his way out of the RUC screen.

"No surrender!!" he cried.

It was election time again.



# Demolition demand

BY KEVIN MCCOOL

DERRY'S Rossville Flats complex entered the news again this week when it was suggested by the Housing Executive that, following a £44 million savage cut in this year's budget, there will not be enough money available to carry out the demolition of the derelict block there.

The Rossville Street block, the only one in the complex which has been designated for demolition, has lain in a dangerous and dilapidated state since October. It was in October that the block was gutted following Sinn Féin complaints about the careless way in which asbestos in the block was being removed. Now the residents of the two remaining occupied blocks of the complex have to live beside the empty block for an indefinite period and this poses a serious threat to their health and safety.

## TRADES COUNCIL

Last week, Derry Trades Council issued a strong statement condemning the £44 million cuts and called on all

unions directly or indirectly involved with the Housing Executive to co-operate in fighting against their implementation. Such cuts, the statement said, "would inevitably mean redundancies among Housing Executive staff and in the already run-down construction industry as well as further reductions in grants and maintenance to housing tenants and those at the lower end of the private housing market".

Paddy Logue, secretary of the trades council, was particularly scathing about the decision to leave the demolition of the Rossville Street block unfinished:

"The stripped and derelict block in Rossville Street stands as a symbol of the bankruptcy of Tory housing



● DIVIS FLATS

policy and is not only an eyesore but an intolerable risk to the people, especially the children of the area."



● Hugh McGinley with his daughter Dairde (3) in their flat

## Rehousing refusal

SINN FEIN'S Councillor Dodie McGuinness has described a Housing Executive refusal to rehouse a young Bogside family from their flooded flat as "insensitive and neglectful".

Rose and Hugh McGinley and their two children (Rose is also expecting a third child) have had to abandon their bedroom because of the water seepage caused by a hole in the roof of an unoccupied flat above them and which the Executive has failed to repair. Despite this, the Executive claims there is no medical basis for a transfer, McGuinness said:

"The McGinley family are at pre-

sent living, eating and sleeping in one room. These are certainly intolerable circumstances in which to bring up a young family and definitely not the healthiest environment for a pregnant woman. The Executive should immediately rehouse the McGinleys and carry out major repair work to the roof of the flats before the remaining tenants find themselves in the same predicament."

# PROTESTS TO GREET SECTION 31 RENEWAL

RTE JOURNALISTS will be staging a token two-hour work stoppage on Friday, January 17th, to coincide with the re-introduction of the ministerial order under Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act by the Coalition telecommunications minister, Jim Mitchell.

Although this work-stoppage falls short of the more widespread and prolonged strike action which was originally planned, Friday's proposed action is an indication of the increasing awareness amongst journalists that censorship is unacceptable.

## GALWAY

On Friday, December 20th, Galway County Council joined many other local authorities across the twenty-six counties in opposing censorship against Sinn

Féin elected representatives. Although the original motion, proposed by Sinn Féin Councillor Frank Glynn, called for the rejection of Section 31, an amended motion which confined the council to supporting free speech for elected representatives only was passed.

Support for free speech has also come from abroad and in Denmark, Ole Espersen, former minister for justice, Gert Petersen, chairperson of the Socialist Peoples party, and Keld Albrechtsen,

foreign affairs spokesperson for Venstre Socialisterne (VS), have signed a joint letter condemning Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act.

The letter, which was sent to Jim Mitchell and is being circulated to the media, describes Section 31 as "a denial of democratic rights in any society which calls itself democratic".

## MUSICIANS AGAINST SECTION 31

Musicians Against Section 31 staged a concert in Dublin's Liberty Hall on Wednesday of this week. Taking part in the concert were Christy Moore, Donal Lunney, Keith Donald, the Celtic

Orchestra and Mary Coughlan and her band.

Also on Wednesday, Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams condemned both Fianna Fáil and the Coalition for their support for "this ludicrous piece of legislation". His statement said:

"With the growth of Sinn Féin's electoral support both North and South of the border, the establishment parties have been intensifying their efforts to silence their opponents while at the same time proclaiming a dem-

ocracy.

"Sinn Féin welcomes the growing opposition in public opinion to political censorship and we will be supporting in strength the picket being organised by the Repeal Section 31 Committee on Friday lunchtime at Leinster House to coincide with the renewal of the ban."

On Tuesday, January 14th the Dublin Council of Trades Unions passed a resolution condemning Section 31 and calling for its repeal.



# Working-class culture

BY DONAL LYONS

OVER one hundred people crowded into the Project Arts Centre in Dublin on Wednesday, January 8th, for the unveiling of Dubliner Ger O'Leary's exhibition of trade union banners. There are over 20 banners on show in this, the first contemporary exhibition of working-class culture in Ireland.

O'Leary's banners are instantly recognisable for their fresh colours and sharp, provocative imagery. Stirring quotations from Connolly and Larkin abound, one of the most striking being the newly-commissioned FWUI banner. On this banner of deepest red, Larkin is depicted in classic pose with arms outstretched, exhorting the workers to overthrow capitalism with the immortal words, "The great are not great. The great only appear great because we are on our knees. Let us arise!"

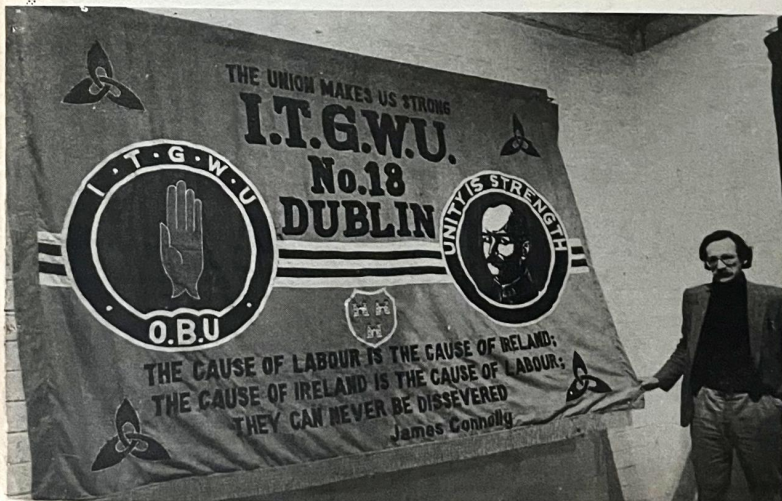
The rank and file are not forgotten either and one ITGWU banner depicts Alice Brady, a young factory worker, who was shot during the 1913 Lock-Out, along with young Byrne and Nolan who were battered to death by the British army in 1917. Indeed, O'Leary is an unashamed socialist republican and those who view his art are never allowed to forget the twin

objectives of the Irish working class — those of social and political liberation.

## MURALS

It's strange to view these banners in the confines of a gallery for their true and natural setting is on the streets, leading workers in protest. Inspired by Mexican artists such as Orozco, Siqueiros and the murals in contemporary Cuba and Nicaragua and, of course, Belfast and Derry, O'Leary uses his talent to inspire the oppressed and challenge the oppressor.

Unveiled to mark the opening of the centenary year of the Dublin Council of Trade Unions it is the first of many planned activities. *Unity is Strength*, runs till January 31st at the Project in East Essex Street from 10am, Mondays to Saturdays. There's no admission charge and it's well worth a visit.



● Ger O'Leary with one of his banners at the Project Arts Centre, Dublin



# PRISONERS ANNOUNCE PORTLAOISE PROTEST

**THE republican prisoners in Portlaoise Prison announced on Tuesday, January 14th, that they will be refusing all closed visits from February 4th.**

The prisoners' announcement, which was released through the Portlaoise Prisoners' Relatives Action Committee, comes after months of speculation that the deteriorating situation within the prison would lead to some form of protest.

In a statement outlining their grievances and the background to the visits protest, the prisoners state:

"We, the republican prisoners in Portlaoise Jail, having given long and hard consideration to the present situation in the jail with particular regard to the visiting conditions, have decided to embark on a visits strike.

"The reasons for this decision go back to March of 1985 when, after a long protest campaign by our relatives and friends, the governor of Portlaoise, William O'Reilly, stated that each prisoner would have nine open visits a year, increasing to 12 if they were seen to be succeeding. However, over the past number of weeks many relatives who have visited the jail have been turned away for no particular reason and

the number of both open and closed visits has been seriously curtailed.

"During the month of December 1985, 400 strip-searches were conducted against the prisoners — the highest number in years — and numerous assaults on prisoners have taken place. Following the attempted escape from the prison on November 24th last, over £5,000 worth of craftwork was completely destroyed and both our mail and our relatives' mail are being interfered with.

"We are being locked up for an extra five hours a week and we believe that this, and the cutting in half of the number of open visits allowed, is due to the fact that procedures concerning the prison staff are being carried out on our time and on our relatives' time.

"Since the present situation is intolerable and we refuse to let our relatives fall victims to the prison regime, we have decided not to subject them any longer to the degrading and inhuman conditions imposed on those who take closed visits. We will be refusing all closed visits from February 4th next."



CHRISTY MAHON

## AP/RN deliveries disrupted

THE persistent harassment of AP/RN drivers on both sides of the border continued on Friday, January 10th, when uniformed gardai stopped one of the paper's vans and held the driver for over an hour in Ballycrocy, near Belmullet in County Mayo.

Christy Mahon was delivering papers in the area when he was stopped in the early hours of Friday morning. The gardai tried to confiscate the papers but backed off when Mahon strongly objected. They then took statements of customers' accounts and a list of delivery points.

Mahon was threatened with arrest if he did not hand over the money in the van. After continuous questioning for more than an hour, the gardai allowed him to go but not before saying that they intended to stop him every week. They refused to give a receipt for the items they had taken.

### SWINFORD

Later that morning, in Swinford, the gardai again stopped and searched the van. They also demanded the AP/RN money from the driver who refused to be intimidated and he was eventually allowed to continue with deliveries.

Local Sinn Féin representative Mary McGing told AP/RN that sales had been steadily increasing in County Mayo recently and "the growth of support here for the republican struggle is obviously worrying the Department of Justice and the gardai".

## Veteran's flat unfit

BY MAIRTIN Mac DIARMADA

THE living conditions of tenants in the Dublin North Inner City flats complex of Buckingham Buildings have been highlighted by the recent case of an 82-year-old widow, Louisa O'Reilly.

Mrs O'Reilly, whose only income is her pension, has been paying rent of £15 a week for her tiny three-roomed flat in Buckingham Buildings. A life-long supporter of the republican cause, she is a veteran of the 1916 Rising when, as a member of Cumann na mBan, she delivered despatches for Countess Markievicz and was later active in the Tan and anti-Treaty struggles.

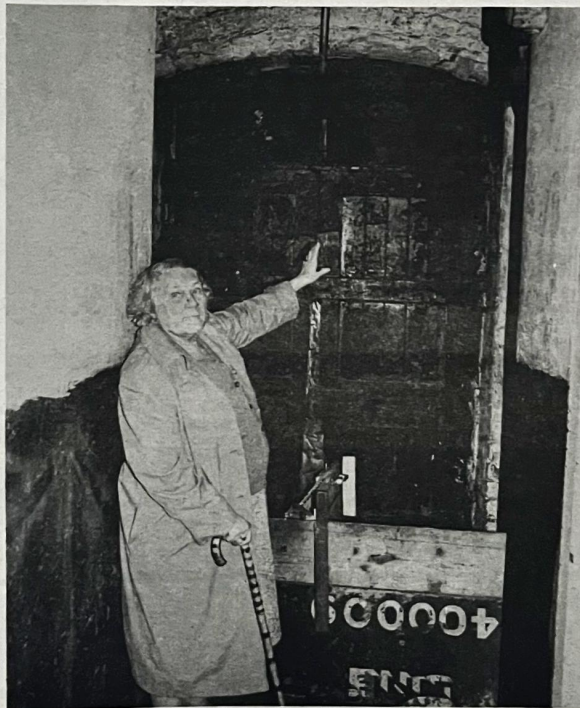
Her home is filled with memorabilia of her own life and her children from as far afield as Australia. However, the living conditions in the flat offer little comfort to Mrs O'Reilly who has withheld her rent payments several times to force the landlord to make repairs.

She was forced to wait months for a rotten window in her kitchen to be replaced and had a similar delay when a section of the wall near her front door collapsed into the living-room.

### SWIMMING IN WATER

The kitchen floor has been swimming in water for weeks with no sign of action from the landlord. The flats have no fire escapes and have been condemned by the fire authorities. Mrs O'Reilly complained to the landlord about the condition of the back entrance to her hallway in the basement section of the complex. His agent, David Maher, told her that the boarded-up entry was her 'fire escape' and that if there was a fire she could climb over it.

Sinn Féin's Councillor Christy Burke has been campaigning for the demolition of Buckingham Buildings and the rehousing of the tenants. He told AP/RN that "prison would be better than the conditions the people in the Buildings have to live in". Following representations from Christy Burke, Dublin Corporation has agreed to rehouse Mrs O'Reilly in the



● Louisa O'Reilly at the boarded-up 'fire escape' in her basement flat at Buckingham Buildings

nearby Sean Treacy House.

### UNDER SCRUTINY

Buckingham Buildings are at present under scrutiny from the Dublin Corporation chief medical officer, but Christy

Burke told AP/RN that if the Corporation de-tenants the flats and rehouses the occupants there is nothing to stop the landlord, one Vincent O'Reilly, from taking in more tenants to his crumbling but very profitable property.

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING  
POLITICAL WEEKLY  
**AN PHOBLACHT**  
Republican News

### Subscription rates

AN PHOBLACHT/Republican News, Ireland's biggest selling political weekly, regularly carries news from throughout the 32 counties, ranging from war news and IRA statements to the everyday social and economic struggles facing the Irish people.

To ensure your weekly copy, subscribe to the paper directly by filling in this form.

The rates are:-

Ireland and Britain ..... £20  
Europe ..... £25  
USA ..... \$50  
Elsewhere ..... £36

To: An Phoblacht/Republican News, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1. Please find enclosed ..... for a subscription for six months/one year to be sent to:

Name .....

Address .....



## COMHBHRÓN

**Nic GABHANN.** Deepest sympathy is extended to Aine Nic Gabhann on the death of her mother. From Seamus and Mary McLoughlin.

**NOLAN.** Deepest and heartfelt sympathy is extended to Lily, Trevor, Stephen, Jason and Eddie, and the brothers and sisters of Eddie Nolan who died on January 7th. A dhéanais Dia go raibín anam dílis. From Pat McClynn.

**NOLAN.** The Malone/Martin Sinn Fein cumann, Pearse Street/Ringsend, Dublin, extends deepest sympathy to the Nolan family of the death of Eddie.

## Beannachtaí

**McCAFFERTY,** Gerard. Happy birthday. From Harry and McGinnis, Derry.

**Mac MATHUNA,** Caoimhín. (Portlaoise). Go raibín maith agat as an chrios. O Robin.

**O'NEILL,** Eddie. (Frankland). Happy birthday. Eddie and best wishes for the future. From An Cumann Cabhrach, Walkinstown.

## Buifechas

Ella O'Dwyer and Marina Anderson (Brixton) thank all those who sent cards and letters over the past months. Go raibín maith againh.

## TORTHAÍ CRANNCHUR

**An Cumann Cabhrach**  
**Dublin Committee**  
 December Draw:  
 £100: No. 200; £50: No. 307;  
 £25: No. 105; £15: Nos. 145, 336;  
 £10: Nos. 102, 185.

**Birr Sinn Fein Christmas Draw**  
 Harp: Jane O'Meara, Roscrea; Leather wallet: Paddy Hayes, Birr.  
**Birr Sinn Fein Card Drive**  
 Hamper: D. Carroll, Clonsilla, Dundalk Sinn Fein.

The winner of the raffle for a remote control colour television was Gerry Rogers, Cedarwood Park Dundalk.

**Newry PDF Monthly Draw:**  
 December: £30: Kate McAteer, Barrack Street, Newry, £10: Barbara Crossey, c/o Ballyholiland Road, Newry, £5: Greta Johnston, Newry.

**Rathfriland Sinn Fein Draw:**  
 Harp: Claire O'Connor, Whitechurch; Bottle of Brandy: Paula Higgins, Holylands; Book: M. Kelly, Ballyboden.

# BBC how to pressure

BY CIAN Mac AOIDH

THE BBC decision to employ their first-ever producer for Irish-language programming, revealed in a letter to Sinn Fein, has been described by cultural department spokesperson Máirtín O Muilleoir as the "first fruits" of the rejuvenated campaign for more Irish broadcasting.

The BBC's head of programmes in the six counties, Anwl Ellis Owen, wrote to O Muilleoir in response to a Sinn Fein enquiry about Irish-language programming which has recently been cut back to 15 minutes per week on Radio Ulster. Commented O Muilleoir:

"If implemented, the appointment of an Irish language producer could lead to regular radio programmes and the first television programmes in Irish.

"There is no doubt that this concession is linked to the revived Mean campaign, the setting up of the Irish community radio, Raidió Feirste, and consistent pressure from Sinn Fein."

### RESPONDED

Meanwhile, the Arts Council in the six counties has also responded to a charge by Sinn Fein that they had not spent one penny of their £2.5 million budget on Irish-language projects last year.

In a letter to the Sinn Fein cultural



● Supporters of the Irish language protesting outside BBC headquarters in Belfast

department, Arts Council director Kenneth Jameson says:

"The fact that no grants for literature in Irish were made during 1984-85 is because no applications were submitted for assessment."

The director adds that he is "unable to comment on the position in Wales" where last year over £1 million was spent on Welsh-language publications alone.

The Sinn Fein cultural department said

that it was unacceptable for the Arts Council to blame Irish speakers for the lack of grant aid:

"Last year, the Arts Council provided £597,500 for the Ulster Orchestra but nothing for the Irish newspaper La, for Irish drama, the major feiseanna or Irish magazines such as An tUacht."

"It is up to the Arts Council to initiate contact with language groupings which until now have been ignored."

## Barry angers language groups

BY CIAN Mac AOIDH

THE CLAIM by Dublin foreign affairs minister Peter Barry that "What the Northern Ireland Office has done for the Irish language is worthy of commendation" is being viewed with incredulity by Irish language groups in the six counties. Barry's remarks, made after the latest meeting of the London-Dublin conference on Friday, January 10th, were quoted in the *Irish Times* and subsequently verified by the paper's London editor, Conor O'Clery.

Lughaidh Mac Giolla Bhrighde, Sinn Fein vice-chairperson of Magherafelt District Council, echoed the sentiments of all of the North's language groupings in a detailed statement repudiating Barry's remarks at the council's monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 14th.

Mac Giolla Bhrighde revealed that, following Peter Barry's remarks, he had contacted leading language activists in the six counties to find out if they had received any assistance from the NIO.

"None of the language representatives I spoke to were aware of any positive measures taken by the NIO to promote Irish culture. Indeed, the *Irish newspaper La* told me that when they contacted the NIO, their spokesperson was unable to explain what work Peter Barry was actually referring to."

### NEGLECT

He went on to list instances of "NIO neglect of and discrimination against the Irish language"



● PETER BARRY

which, he said, were "legendary" amongst Irish speakers.

These include:

- A refusal to repeal the law which bans the speaking of Irish in courts.

- A ban on the Mass in Irish, Irish publications and the speaking of Irish in six-county prisons.

- The recent withdrawal, at the behest of the NIO, of ACE grants being received by the newspaper *La*.

- A refusal to grant-aid language organisations, nursery playgroups or Irish-language arts (sim-



● Twinbrook Naiscoil, Belfast

lar activities are funded in Wales and Scotland).

- The refusal to erect street, road and traffic signs in Irish.

- Irish has no official recognition within the North, so official forms are available in English only.

Slamming Peter Barry's "ignor-

ance" about the status of Irish in the North, Mac Giolla Bhrighde said:

"This ignorance is a product of the fact that neither he nor his colleagues in the NIO have ever bothered to consult with any of the North's language organisations."

## DIARY

THE 1986 Republican Diary is now available. This pocket sized diary comes in an attractive plastic cover embossed with gold logo and lettering and can be obtained in four different colours, blue, maroon, brown and green.

Individual copies cost Stg£2.50 or Ir £3.00 (please add postage) and bulk rates are available on request. Orders should be sent to Republican Publications, 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast, (Tel: 232820), or 44 Parnell Square, Dublin, (Tel: 726932).

## Election fund appeal

SINN FEIN is contesting the forthcoming by-elections in four constituencies: Fermanagh/South Tyrone, Mid-Ulster, Newry/Armagh and South Down. Coming, as it does, eight months after the local government contest in the six counties, this election places obvious financial pressures which the above-mentioned constituencies cannot be expected to bear alone.

We appeal, therefore, to all republicans and nationally-minded people to contribute generously to the finances which are urgently needed to fight this election campaign.

All monies should be sent to:  
 Sinn Fein Election Fund,  
 44 Parnell Square,  
 Dublin 1.





tv

# REVIEWS

## They call it 'justice'

BY AINE MARTIN

APARTHEID in South Africa featured a number of times on TV over the past week. On Sunday night, Channel 4 broadcast *The Biko Inquest*, a drama documentary about the inquest into the death of black activist Steve Biko in 1977.

That Biko was beaten to death by police cannot be doubted. Yet, despite all evidence pointing to this fact, the inquest held that no offence had been committed. It's the same old story — a totally biased and bigoted judiciary refusing to admit what is not in its interests. Many in Ireland are familiar with this type of 'justice'.

our fault," and, "We built this country."

But the programme which came lowest on the scale with regard to content and awareness had to be *Late Late Extra* on RTE1 on Sunday evening.

It was nothing short of sickening to listen to the likes of Foster & Allen trying to justify their performances in South Africa on the grounds that they played to integrated audiences (undoubtedly not in Soweto) while others used the 'need for cultural exchanges' line.

It was heartening to hear Ronnie Drew and Mary Black say that they had pledged not to play there, but others were less encouraging. One young man accused the Dúnnes Stores' strikers of "theatrics" — a telephone caller maintained "our right to know our civil rights, we would lose our civil rights, produce we want", if we banned South African goods in an attempt to help win

some rights for black people!

He appeared to be reluctant to lose anything, except maybe his self-respect, to help others.

On Sunday night, *Spitting Image* made its welcome return to UTV. A week late, mind you, but better late than never.

Fans of the satirical puppet programme will be delighted to know that all the old bits are back. Last season's series seemed tame and lacklustre compared to the first run.

Thursday night's TV *Ge Ge* on RTE lacked the previous week's dramatics with telephone callers; in fact it seriously lacked callers. Instead, this programme for young people decided to concentrate on the state of the arts in Ireland, with the emphasis on poetry.

We had presenter Ba'ba Lee and her mid-Atlantic twang interviewing actor Gabriel Byrne. Byrne came across as articulate and intelligent, with definite ideas about where he was going in his career. He showed he had self-respect in that he refused to do stereotypical 'Paddy' characters when he began working in England



• STEVE BIKO

— a decision that certainly cost him work and cash at the time.

On the other hand, there was the poetry. After a disappointing John Cooper Clarke we had to suffer the awful Paul Durcan and the pseudo-intellectual drivel he had to offer. Durcan poses as a bit of a poet and he gave us the dubious pleasure of him reading his scribbles out in the theatre. Durcan reclined theatrically in his seat and discussed with another pseud how hard it was on poets being lonely and isolated from society and all that. It's the agony and the angst, d'ya see...

But all will be well because Mr Durcan has started saving up for an ivory tower. (I myself will be delighted to

take any contributions for the construction of this glorious edifice.)

...  
The *Trial*, Franz Kafka's nightmare novel, used to seem like a product of the warped imagination of a manic depressive. But life imitates art nowdays, Irish republicans have no difficulty recognising the scenes depicted in Kafka's novel: the dawn raid, the unknown accuser, the bewildered prisoner and his shattered life, the endless legal process.

On Saturday night, RTE2 showed Orson Welles' film based on Kafka's novel. *The Trial* was filmed in a disused Paris train station and starred Anthony Perkins as Joseph K, the average man who wakes up one morning and finds himself a victim of the establishment, without being able to discover why he is being accused or even what he is being accused of.

The film worked well in achieving an atmosphere of paranoia and puzzlement, but it had a number of flaws. For example, Welles' effort to create a universal language so that nobody could say 'It couldn't happen here' because they couldn't say for sure where the story was actually set. The set didn't look universal, it just looked weird, so much so that it distracted one's attention from the drama unfolding in the foreground.

But for all its faults it was a worthwhile effort. It tried to warn us of a nightmare situation that, for many prisoners world-wide, is a reality.

father. Yet Marty knows that if he does not bring his mom and dad together he cannot be conceived and will thus fade away. Well it makes sense to me!

### LITTLE TOUCHES

*Back to the Future* is not, as is often told, based on a real incident, but it is a very slick, well-produced and, above all, well-written motion picture. It doesn't really have any other pretensions to be anything but good family entertainment and brings some life back into that particular genre as film producers over the last few years seemed to have treated anyone with a family as not being worth entertaining.

But let's not ignore the little touches that make *Back to the Future* such a benchmark for Ronald Raygun's America. There's the nostalgia for the past, in this case the '50s; there is the loner overcoming the odds; followed by the wimp's need to turn himself 'macho' to win the girl and, finally, there's the choice of the Libyans as the bad guys with no redeeming features. Just don't show Reagan this film. He'll attack Libya for shooting the professor.

film

## Back to the present

BY EDDIE STACK

"WOW! I mean, eh, HEAVY!" Recognise the dialogue? Yes, another 'yuppie' American movie has landed upon our planet, coming to us from the planet Buck. Hold on to your seat for thin dialogue, transparent plots, and yuppie kids with sneakers, Sony Walkmans and several hang-ups about their parents. "Gosh... It's a blast. I mean wow, HEAVY!" Smoking can damage your health but, boy, music videos sure can limit your dialogue. HEAVY!!!

Actually this isn't quite fair as the film which has promoted my onslaught against America's twinkle-toed computer-fingered youth is quite good indeed. Nay, I'll even say that it's a great night out. Coming as it does from that master storyteller Steven Spielberg, the man who makes movies for the drive-in cinemas this country never had, it really couldn't miss. *Back to the Future* tells an unlikely tale which mixes the old time-machine story with a minor slice of incest where a young son is lusted after

by, of all people, his unwitting mother. While the film centres on the exploits back in time of a clean-cut yuppie in time of a clean-cut yuppie (as we will find out) and whose name escapes me but it surely can't be anything other than either Scooter, Duke or Biff. Anyhow, his dirty weekend in peril, Marty takes solace in calling on his friend the professor, who, by the way, has cracked the secret of time travel.

But the professor doesn't intend to travel into the future in any old time machine. Hell, no. The professor makes his time-mobile out of a stripped down, would you believe it, John Deere Lorean car. "If you're travelling in time, why

occupation is getting his dad's car so that he can take off to the mountains with his girlfriend for a weekend of bliss. Alas for Marty, the problem is his dad, who is a most un-macho character or, to put it in Americanese, "a real wimpoid". Because he is such a wimp, therefore, Marty's dad had lent out his car to the man who had been the school bully 30 years before (as we will find out) and whose name escapes me but it surely can't be anything other than either Scooter, Duke or Biff. Anyhow, his dirty weekend in peril, Marty takes solace in calling on his friend the professor, who, by the way, has cracked the secret of time travel.

But the professor doesn't intend to travel into the future in any old time machine. Hell, no. The professor makes his time-mobile out of a stripped down, would you believe it, John Deere Lorean car. "If you're travelling in time, why

## BACK TO THE FUTURE

leabhar

## An Chrosántacht

LE DEASUN BREATNACH

IN ÉIRINN sna meánaoiseanna, agus b'fhéidir go dté an 17ú gcéad in áiteanna, bhíodh ceoltóirí ar leith ag taisteal na tíre ar a dtugtaí na Crosáin. Is é a deir an tAth. Ó Duinnín faoin bhfoical 'crosán'. "... A scurra; a satirist; a buffoon; a comedian; a cheat; a villain..." Morán mar a chéile an scéal ag Ó Donail: "Mimic; jester; satirist; scurrilous person". Nach fada cuimhne na ndaoine!

Is cosúil gur thuill agus go dlúis na Crosáin an clú sin. Ar an leithéad af ísle den fhilíocht a bhí na daoine bochta seo agus b'fheall go dté clú le éileamh na ndaoine, idir ghairneálacht agus eile. Bhíodh fáil ar leith rompu ag bainis ná ag tarramh.

Chuir an córas Gallda dearadh leis an institiúid seo agus

bhí lucht Cromilid de shóir ar a dtóir, iad á marú gan tócaire. Thug siad a gceolir teach sna sionnta, go háirithe i gCúige Uladh. Céad ianta go maith atá leagan an Bhárla, na Crosáin (féach in Eolais ar Taisleáin). Ó Crosáin, leagan ceart na Gaeilge.

Ba iad na Crosáin a thug a ainm don chineál sin meas-

cáin, filíocht agus próis, a dtugtar 'crosántacht' air, 'genre of comic satiric comprising verse and prose', dar le Ó Donail. Tá cuid mhaith den genre seo ar fáil sna laimh scríbhinní. Chonaiceas féin roinnt de a choinnígh muintir Uí Chearbhaill. Níor ariogh mé ach an t-ionann sampla amháin de á chandhas na nGaeilte agus ag Seasmh Ó Néanigh a bhíodh sin, ar dheis Dáil go raibh sé. Tá sin le cloistáil i gcoinnéal ar cheann de na

ceiríní de chuid Ghael Linn. Athbhéochán ar an gcinéal seo litríocht atá ar síúl, seansa, ag an Dr. Dáithí Ó hGáin, sa leabhar is deanaí óna pheann Cóngar na gCrosáin. Agus an saothar seo Jorge Luis Borges i gcúimhne dom agus muraigh go raibh an rud seo saibhnúnaite i litríocht na Gaeilge chuirfí in leith Dáithí gur faoi thionchar Jorge a bhí sé, cé go bhfuil an gaeilche ag breisdeadh tríd ths deirleadh. Féach an giota seo (lch. 38):  
"Tegann agus imíonn an t'fíocht ina camfíocht, ar sé, agus is minic a theip ar ar an daidhí féin, Virgil agus Hómair, fiú, seacht mbliana tfoadha a leithéid de shaothar orthu agus ní seacht liú Agus, pé scéal é, tá eagla orm dul i dteannta an Impire

mhóir chun catha! Ar an guma sin a thug sé a' le saol na bhfuilí leis an airgead, leis an capall uasbhara, leis na mná. Ceanglaíonn sé an chait do mhíle file, a dúrthas faoi. Deineann a aise an Pápa, agus é ann an doech dáibh, leis. Idir an coiteann is an tsainiúil Bhéadh fadhb is cead á réiteach dúinn...  
On gencio seo trasna ar thair-singeacht  
Thar mhothar crann, thar fhonn, thar shruth —  
Dreacht thí Fhinn Mhic Chumhaill na gcon  
Is an fis ar fis rís m'haidm bhag."  
Vermillon a rinne an leagan amach agus Clodna Cussen, an clúdach láinn.  
● Cóngar na gCrosáin le Dáithí Ó hGáin. Folláiste ag Coláiste. Luach £2.

## Imeachtaí

'UNITY IS STRENGTH'  
Trade union banners exhibition  
9th to 31st January  
Project Arts Centre  
East Essex Street  
DUBLIN

CUMANN CABHRACH SOCIAL  
10pm-1.30am  
Friday 17th January  
Eldon Hotel  
SKIBBEREEN  
County Cork  
Bar extension and supper

VOL KEVIN COEN  
COMMEMORATION  
12 noon Sunday 19th January  
SOOEY  
County Sligo  
Procession from church to the Coen Memorial  
Speaker Ruairi O'Bradaigh  
Organised by Sligo  
National Graves Association

GUISEPPE CONLON  
COMMEMORATION  
(6th Anniversary)  
2.30pm Sunday 19th January  
Wormwood Scrubs Prison  
Du Cane Road  
LONDON W12  
(Nearest tube: White City)  
Organised by the Republican  
POW Campaign Committee

IRISH POWS IN ENGLAND  
MEETING  
Sunday 19th January  
All relatives and interested  
individuals are invited to attend  
For further details phone  
Belfast 223214  
Organised by the  
Relatives Committee

BALLAD SESSION  
Music by The Irish Brigade  
8pm Friday 24th January  
Belgard Inn  
Tallaght  
DUBLIN  
Taille £2.50  
Organised by Sinn Féin  
National Finance Committee

DUBLIN BUS TO DERRY  
FOR BLOODY SUNDAY  
Leaves 5 Blessington Street  
2pm Saturday 25th January  
Returns Sunday after march  
Taille £10  
Bookings at Blessington Street

MICHAEL TIMOTHY  
COMMEMORATION  
(1st Anniversary)  
12 noon Saturday 25th January  
Palmerstown Cemetery  
PALMERSTOWN  
County Dublin  
Phone 747611/733441 for details

SINN FEIN ELECTION SOCIAL  
Music by Aisling  
Sunday 26th January  
Ballinagallagh Hall  
BALLINAGALLAGH  
County Leitrim

FILM BENEFIT  
In aid of Irish Committee for  
Defence of Democratic Rights  
in Turkey  
The award-winning film 'Yol'  
8pm Monday 27th January  
Academy Theatre  
Pearse Street  
DUBLIN  
Admission free  
Tickets from CDDRT,  
9 Cavendish Row (747321)

STOP THE STRIP SEARCHES  
PICKET  
1.2pm Thursday 30th January  
Department of Foreign Affairs  
Iveagh House  
St Stephen's Green  
DUBLIN

PDF DANCE  
Featuring The Glentones  
and The Pridmenses  
Friday 31st January  
Milford Hotel  
MILFORD  
County Donegal  
Taille £2.50

SINN FEIN SOCIAL  
Music by the  
Dublin City Ramblers  
Friday 14th February  
Castle Court Hotel  
MOHILL  
County Leitrim





## Brock's are damp squib with councils

**SINN FEIN has welcomed the decision by the race relations committee of Islington Borough Council in London to take action against Brock's Fireworks Company which also manufactures plastic bullets.**

Islington Council is expected to ban the use of fireworks produced by Brock's Pyrotechnics of Scotland following agreement by the council's race relations committee that action should be taken against Brock's as long as they continue to produce "an essential part of plastic bullets".

The issue of plastic bullets has become more urgent in Britain since the proposed introduction of the weapon during the Tottenham riots last summer. Labour-control-



● GERRY MacLOCHLAINN

led councils have been particularly vocal in their opposition to any suggestion that the weapon might be introduced to control civil distur-

bances on Britain's streets. As part of this opposition, the police committee of the Greater London Council has asked all local authorities to investigate the "paradoxical role played by Brock's Pyrotechnics in the production of fireworks and an essential part of plastic bullets".

At its meeting on Thursday, January 9th, the race relations committee of Islington Council was addressed by Gerry MacLochlainn of the Irish in Britain Representation Group who pointed out that 15 Irish people, seven of their children, have been killed by plastic bullets and many more have been seriously injured, some of them blinded.

Calling for the banning of plastic bullets, the race relations committee agreed that Brock's fireworks should be banned from all council displays, all displays funded by the council or by council-funded groups, and all displays which take place on council property.

Should Islington Council agree to the ban, and should other labour-controlled councils follow suit, Brock's will certainly face a severe fall in revenue.

## Death of Rose Mulholland

**ROSE MULHOLLAND, who died recently after a long illness, will be sadly missed by her family and by all Belfast republicans. She was born in Cork but the family moved to Belfast, her mother's home, in the early 1900s.**

Rose's father died in the flu epidemic of 1918, and her mother worked in Emerson's Mill in Ligoniel to support her young family. The hardship of her early life only served to strengthen Rose Mulholland's spirit.

She met Belfast republican Liam Mulholland at a celi in Greencastle in 1929. They did not marry until 1938 because Liam was in jail most of the time. That was to be the pattern of their married lives, like so many republicans. "She must have visited me in every jail in Ireland except Limerick and Cork," recalls Liam.

### DEPORTED

The couple went to England after their marriage but were both deport-

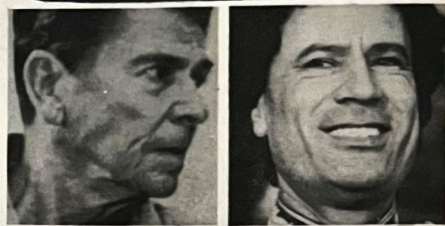
ed in 1939. Liam Mulholland says:

"It was a struggle to live for times were very hard. Rose worked in the mill and then as a stitcher. We went everywhere together — when I was not in jail! Our social life was going to cells where we met other republicans. It was a love match and it remained that way all our lives."

As well as visiting Liam during his countless spells of imprisonment, including internment in 1971, Rose Mulholland worked for all the prisoners, campaigning and protesting against their incarceration and was also active in Green Cross. To her husband Liam and their daughter Caroline, the Republican Movement extends its deepest sympathy.



## WORLD VIEW



## Libya

**US PRESIDENT Ronald Reagan's latest threats against Libya's leader, Muammar Qaddafi, have their origins in two CIA reports commissioned last year by Reagan.**

The first report, entitled "Libya's Qaddafi: The Challenge to the United States and Western Interests" and published under the auspices of a 'Special National Intelligence Estimate' accused Libya of "providing money, weapons, a base of operations, travel assistance or training to some 30 insurgent radical or terrorist groups". The report outlines how Qaddafi is 'plotting' to turn the world upside down with the help of the 30 or so organisations, including the PLO, SWAPO, FMLN, NPA, the Sandinistas and, of course, the IRA.

The second report on Libya is, in CIA jargon, 'a vulnerability assessment' and has recommended that Reagan takes action "stimulating Qaddafi's fall". In crude terms this means immediate covert operations against Libya. The report suggested that the US, in co-operation with key countries, initiates a broad programme against Libya which combines political, economic and paramilitary action. It also recommended that the US should finance exile groups and train them to carry out campaigns of sabotage and violence against Qaddafi.

When the two reports were published after being leaked to the *Washington Post*, comparisons were made between US covert operations in Nicaragua and those proposed for Libya. A Washington spokesperson, echoing the arrogance and callousness of the Reagan regime, replied to the comparisons with, "We went ahead with the world's most open covert operation against Nicaragua. I would not assume that the opponents of this (the Libyan reports) can kill it with leaks."

### US HATRED

US hatred of Libya has existed since Qaddafi deposed puppet monarch King Idris al-Mahdi as-Sanusi. From 1945 to 1951 the British con-

trolled Libya, with the blessing of the United Nations. In 1951, because the USSR was showing too much interest in the country, the British and the US, through the UN, hastily created the Kingdom of Libya complete with puppet monarch, three divided provinces, no civil service, and a one million population, not including US and British armed forces.

In 1969, Muammar al-Qaddafi overthrew King Idris and threw the British out of Tobruk. He also booted out 6,000 US servicemen from Wheelus airbase. Qaddafi banned all night clubs, alcohol, gambling and the teaching of English.

During the first decade of his administration, Qaddafi used the income from Libya's oil exports — £2,500 million per annum — to dramatically improve the lives of Libya's population. All education, health and housing is free and since 1975 his regime has built 200,000 houses. Qaddafi has ensured that landlordism has been wiped out by enacting a law which forbids anyone owning more than one house. All businesses are nationalised and banking is restricted.

### PROGRESSIVE

Libya has been in the forefront of those who help people in struggle and has, time and time again, given progressive aid to those that need it. For example, when the Reagan administration attempted to bring Nicaragua to heel by cancelling all aid and initiating economic blockades, Libya provided £100 million assistance to Nicaragua.

It is no wonder that Reagan is trying every dirty trick in the book to overthrow the Libyan government. The facts are clear, Libya is not a haven for world terrorism. Unfortunately, that can't be said of the USA.

## Cocktails for two

**INDONESIAN President General Suharto has long been an open admirer of British colonialism and all its trappings. His methods of controlling the populace owe much to the British — internment without trial, torture, 'falling' out of third-storey windows of police stations, shoot-to-kill, assassinations etc.**

Now Suharto has gone the whole hog by suggesting that Vietnam and the various Cambodian factions could settle their differences at a 'cocktail party' to be organised by the Indonesian regime.

Suharto's bizarre proposal was given its first airing last year when he met India's premier, Rajiv Gandhi, at a party on November 16th in New Delhi. Suharto, who has been given special responsibility for Indo-China by the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) suggested that the seven-year war in Cambodia between Vietnam and remnants of the murderous Khmer Rouge could be settled 'over a few drinks'.

Suharto even proposed that the Soviets and Chinese be invited, and anyone else who has a stake in Indo-China.

### NOT IMPRESSED

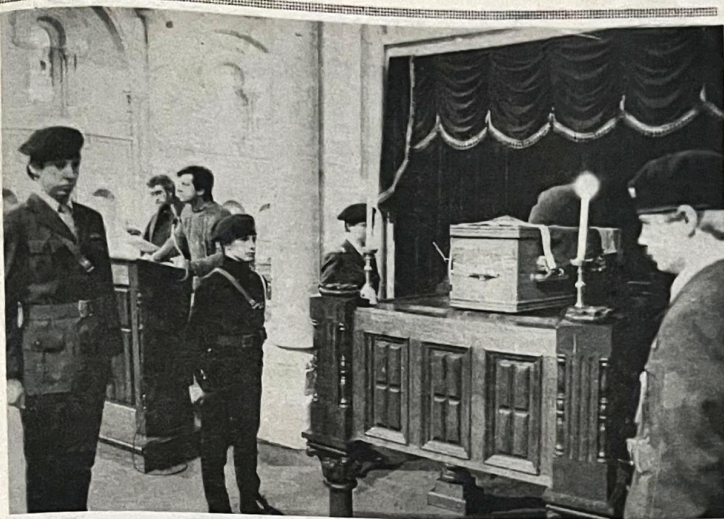
Suharto's foreign minister, Moch-

tar Kusumaatmadja, is not all that impressed, especially with the enlarged version of the cocktail party. "It's too big. I don't think it will come to much," he said. Suharto has now opted for a more intimate affair. There is just one snag — the Vietnamese don't want to know; and the Cambodians, including Prince Sihanouk, have maintained a deafening silence. "We are all in suspense," declared Mochtar.

General Suharto is eminently well qualified to deal with communists in Indo-China. In 1968, his army massacred nearly one million 'communists' during a coup against President 'Bung' Sukarno. Since that date, his regime has habitually suppressed any dissent within Indonesia, ensuring the jails are always full to overflowing.

During the Vietnam War, Suharto openly supported the US and Saigon governments, and is now a champion of the Philippines dictator, President Marcos.





## Death of Eddie Nolan

REPUBLICANS throughout Dublin were saddened to learn of the death of Eddie Nolan, who died suddenly on Tuesday, January 7th, aged 34.

Eddie, a native of Crumlin, lived in Killinarden, Tallaght, for the past three years. His sudden death, at such an early age, is all the more tragic as he leaves behind a wife and young family.

Eddie will always be associated with the Ringsend area of the city where he lived for a number of years during which time he joined Sinn Féin. A dedicated and sincere republican, he was an active member of the Jackie Griffith cumann for the past 13 years and was a familiar figure around the Bath Avenue, Sandymount and Ringsend areas of Dublin, carrying out the

routine but essential cumann work.

Following 10am Mass in the Church of the Sacred Heart, Killinarden, Tallaght, on Thursday, January 9th, his funeral took place at Glasnevin Cemetery. Here, his Tricolour-draped coffin was escorted by a Fianna Éireann guard of honour to the cemetery church. Following a short service and a tribute from Sean Crowe of the Sinn Féin Ard Chomhairle, the remains of Eddie Nolan were cremated.

The Republican Movement extends its deepest sympathy to his wife Lily, sons, Trevor, Stephen, Jason and Eddie and his brothers and sisters.



## REMEMBERING THE PAST Fiach Mac Hugh O'Byrne

BY PETER O'ROURKE

DURING the latter half of the 16th century, Fiach Mac Hugh O'Byrne, chief of the O'Byrnes of Wicklow, struck fear into the hearts of the citizens of the English garrison towns along the east coast from Dublin to Wexford.

From the stronghold in Ballinacor, at the head of the remote glen, Glenmalur, he made frequent raids on the Pale which stretched from Drogheda to Wexford town.

The loyal citizens of the Pale certainly heard more than they wished to hear of the 'Firebrand' of the Wicklow Mountains. The folklore of Leinster was once rich in tales of attempts made to capture O'Byrne and of the ruses by which he avoided them; of sorties made against English-held towns and of the fear he engendered in the hearts of the citizens of the Pale.

In 1580, the seneschal of Wexford, Captain Masterson, killed his kinsmen, the Kavanaghs. Later, al-

ong with the O'Connors and O'Mores, O'Byrne invaded Wexford and laid it waste.

In August of that year, the English Viceroy, Lord Grey de Wilton, led a force into the lonely pass of Glenmalur in an attempt to capture O'Byrne but was defeated.

O'Byrne continued to evade capture and was pardoned in 1581. For several years he caused little anxiety to the Dublin Castle officials, but he was regarded with suspicion and his very presence so near to the capital and the Pale was looked upon as a menace.

### NINE-YEAR WAR

In March 1594, during the Nine-

Year War, O'Byrne, allied with his son-in-law, Walter Reagh Fitzgerald, went into open revolt against the English. On the night of January 16th 1595, the new deputy, Sir William Russell, made an assault on and almost succeeded in capturing his stronghold at Ballinacor. Having defeated the English force, two weeks later, on January 30th, O'Byrne and 80 of his men made a night attack on the town of Crumlin, which lay about two miles from St James's Gate, the outermost gate of the walled city of Dublin.

In the *Annals of the Four Masters* the story is told how, 'They burned and totally plundered that town and took away as much as they were able to carry of the laden roof of the church of the town; and though the blaze and flames of the burning town were plainly visible in the streets of Dublin, O'Byrne escaped without wound or bloodshed.'

Proclaimed a traitor with a reward of £150 offered for his capture and £100 for his head, Russell continued to pursue him.

Following three years of bitter fighting, Fiach Mac Hugh O'Byrne was eventually captured in May 1597 and beheaded.

Ag dul i méid - getting bigger  
Faol chos - oppressed

### EMIGRATION

DURING the last century millions of people left this country. Most of them went to America or Britain. In 1847 there were around nine million people in Ireland. At the beginning of this century there were four million and emigration continued on until the end of the '50s.

From around 1960 emigration ended and for 20 years there was immigration going on into this country. It was mostly exiles who came back at that time when work was available in the new industries.

But now emigration is back with us and increasing rapidly. As long as the Irish people are economically and politically oppressed there will be Irish exiles abroad.

## IN OUR CHURCH

**BLEAKLEY, Rosemary.** (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Rosemary Bleakley, Belfast Brigade, Cumann na mBan and Martin McDonagh, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died as a result of an accidental explosion while on active service on January 13th 1976. Thus sad a raibh agas tróid ar son na saoirse. Never forgotten by their friends and comrades in Cumann na mBan and Oglagh na hÉireann.

**BLEAKLEY, Rosemary.** (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear friend Rosie Bleakley who died on active service on January 13th 1976. Always remembered by Pauline and Adrian.

**DELANEY, Kevin.** (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Kevin 'Dee' Delaney, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died as a result of an accidental explosion while on active service on January 17th 1980. Chaithe sear agas tróid ar son na Pobla. Never forgotten by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

**DELANEY, Kevin.** (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear husband and our father Vol Kevin Delaney who was killed in action on January 17th 1980. He died as he had lived, true to God and to the land whose cause he loved. Always remembered by his wife Edie and children Sean, Paul and Cairé.

**DELANEY, Kevin 'Dee.'** (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear son and brother Vol Kevin 'Dee' Delaney, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died while on active service on January 17th 1980. St Anthony, pray for him. 'I sit alone and think of you and have a silent cry, but the hardest thing to take, is that we never said goodbye.' Sadly missed by his loving mother, father and brothers Tommy, James and Kieran.

**DELANEY, Kevin 'Dee.'** (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear brother Vol Kevin 'Dee' Delaney, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed while on active service on January 17th 1980. 'No need for words except to say, still missed and loved in every way.' Always remembered by his brother Malachy, Jean and wee Malachy.

**DELANEY, Kevin.** (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear brother Kevin 'Dee' Delaney, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died on active service on January 17th 1980. St Anthony pray for him. Your memories we treasure with thoughts that are dear, we think of you often, not just once a year. Sadly missed by his loving sister Eileen and his brother-in-law Jim and family, USA.

**DELANEY, Kevin.** (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Kevin 'Dee' Delaney who was killed as a result of a premature explosion while on active service on January 17th 1980. Fuair sear na saoirse mhuintir na hÉireann. Always remembered by the Kevin Delaney Sinn Féin cumann, Bray, County Wicklow.

**DELANEY, Kevin 'Dee.'** (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Kevin 'Dee' Delaney, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died as a result of a premature explosion while on active service on Thursday, 17th January 1980. Thoirse agas fuair sear ar son na saoirse mhuintir na hÉireann. Never forgotten by Debbie and kids.

**DELANEY, Kevin.** (6th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Kevin 'Dee' Delaney, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died while on active service on January 17th 1980. Time may pass and fade away but silent thoughts and memories stay. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in Ann St and family, also Kathleen Jones and family, and Eddie and Teresa Butler and family.

**HARVEY, Seamus.** (9th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Seamus Harvey, Oglagh na hÉireann, South Armagh, who died while on active service on January 16th 1977. Fuair sear ar son na saoirse. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in Oglagh na hÉireann, South Armagh.

**HARVEY, Seamus.** (9th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Seamus Harvey, South Armagh Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on 16th January 1977. I know the reason you had to die, for the love of Ireland and its people. Always remembered by a friend and comrade.

**LIGGETT, Francis.** (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Francis Liggett, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was shot dead by the RUC while on active service on January 18th 1973. Thus sear agas tróid ar son na saoirse. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

**LIGGETT, Francis.** (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear son Vol Francis Liggett who was killed in action on January 18th 1973. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. No need for words except to say, still missed and loved in every way. Always remembered by his loving mother Dianne and family circle.

**LIGGETT, Francis.** (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear brother Vol Francis Liggett who was killed in action on January 18th 1973. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. He who dies for Ireland lives. Always remembered

by Danny, Colleen and family. **LIGGETT, Francis.** (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my brother-in-law Vol Francis Liggett who was killed in action on January 18th 1973. Danny your cousin, England, we want our country. The light must go on. Always remembered by his sister-in-law Anne and nephew Richard.

**LIGGETT, Francis.** (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear brother-in-law, Francis who was killed in action on January 18th 1973. Yet another year has passed but our memories of the flame of freedom for Ireland, will never fade or flicker. Loved, missed and remembered always by Margaret and Martin O'S.

**LIGGETT, Francis.** (13th Anniversary). In loving memory of Vol Francis Liggett, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed in action on January 18th 1973. Behind our memories lies a tear, for a friend we lost and loved so dear, our hearts beat as we whisper low, God bless you, Francis, we miss you so. Sadly missed by Gearoid, Grainne, Paul and Daire.

**LIGGETT, Francis.** (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Francis Liggett who was killed in action on January 18th 1973. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for him. Always remembered by Harry and Delirde.

**LIGGETT, Francis.** (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Francis Liggett who gave his life for Ireland on January 18th 1973. On his soul sweet Jesus have mercy. Still fondly remembered by the Shannon family.

**LIGGETT, Francis.** (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Francis Liggett who died on active service on January 18th 1973. Ni dheanfar dearmad air. Always remembered by Róisín and family.

**LIGGETT, Francis.** (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Francis Liggett, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service on January 18th 1973. They can kill the revolutionaries but never the revolution. Always remembered by Maureen, Brian and Brian O'S.

**LIGGETT, Francis.** (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my dear friend Vol Francis Liggett, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed in action on January 18th 1973 at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast. Always remembered by his very dear friend Pat Butts.

**MCCORMICK, Eamon.** (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Flan Eamon McCormick, Belfast Brigade, Fanna Eireann, who died while on active service on January 16th 1972. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade, Fanna Eireann.

**MCCORMICK, Eamon.** (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Flan Eamon McCormick, Fanna Eireann, who died on January 16th 1972. Our Lady, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. Your name we often mention, but never with you still. You have not been forgotten, God knows you never will. Always remembered by his loving father and mother, Hugh and Rose McCormick and family circle.

**MCCORMICK, Eamon.** (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my brother Flan Eamon McCormick, Fanna Eireann, who died on January 16th 1972. Our Lady, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. It does not take a special day to bring you to our minds, for your memories we have and you are the everlasting kind. Always remembered by his loving sister Rosemary, brother-in-law Terry and family.

**MCDONAGH, Martin.** (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear friend Martin 'Bugsy' McDonagh who died on active service on January 13th 1976. Always remembered by Pauline and Adrian.

**MCMAHON, Jackie.** (8th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Jackie McMahon, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, whose decomposed body was found floating in the River Lagan in May 1978. Vol McMahon was last seen being arrested by the RUC in Musgrave Street, Belfast, on January 18th 1978. I measc laochra na hGael go raibh a anam. Never forgotten by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

**MOYNE, James.** (11th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol James Moyne, Derry Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died in Long Kesh on January 13th 1975. Thus sear agas tróid ar son na saoirse mhuintir na hÉireann. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Derry Brigade.

**SLOAN, Michael.** (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Flan Michael Sloan who was killed on active service on 11th January 1972. Gone but never forgotten. Always remembered and sadly missed by Gerry.

**SLOAN, Michael.** (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Flan Michael Sloan, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died on active service on January 11th 1972. Never forgotten by his loving friends John and Mary Ann Stone and family circle.

**SLOAN, Michael.** (14th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Flan Michael Sloan, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hÉireann, who died on active service on January 11th 1972. Never forgotten by his loving friends John and Mary Ann Stone and family circle.

## Irish Lesson

159

### EISIMIRCE

I RITH an chéid seo caite d'fhág na milliúin daoina an tír seo. Chuagán a chuid in mó acu go Meirice nó go dtí an Bhreatain. I 1841 bhí thart ar naoi milliúin daoine in Éirinn. Ag tús na haoise seo bhí ceithre milliúin agus lean an eisimirce ar aghaidh go dtí deireadh na gcaogaíid.

Ó thart ar 1960 ar aghaidh tháinig deiradh leis an eisimirce agus ar feadh 20 bliana bhí inimirce ar siúl go dtí an tír seo. Deirathie is mó a

tháinig ar ais san am sin nuair a bhí obair ar fáil sna tionscail nua.

Ach anois tá an eisimirce ar ais linn agus tá sí ag dul i méid go tapa. Fadó is lá muintir na hÉireann faoi chos canamófaichta agus polaitiúil beidh deorathie Éireannacha thar lear. Imirce - migration

Eisimirce - emigration

Aois - age, century

Tús na haoise - beginning of the century

Lean sé ar aghaidh - it continued on

Deoráit - exile (person)

Deorathie - exiles

Deoráicht - exile (state)



# The Liam Og Column

## Ready salted

THERE was serious embarrassment in the Sinn Féin publicity department this week when a packet of Riley's cheese and onion potato crisps arrived in head office. The crisps, coming in the teeth of an election campaign, couldn't have appeared at a worse moment.

For there, on the front of the crisps, and for that matter on millions of other bags of snacks, from grilled bacon to scampi-lemon, was the replica of Sinn Féin's 'SF' election logo, only here it was in reference to Sooner Foods who produce Riley's (and Murphy's) crisps in England.

The Sinn Féin logo was first used in the October 1982 elections so your intrepid reporter telephoned the sales director of Sooner Foods in South Humberside to find out how long they had been on the market.

"Ten years," he replied.

He!! I could just see it all. Eddie McGrady shouting, "Vote for prawncocktail McDowell," and Ken Maginnis referring to the "Salt and vinegar gunmen."

"How long have you been using the 'SF' logo then?" "Oh, that. I think about a year now," he replied, as I enthusiastically ordered three packets of ready salted (not wanting to stretch the old expense account, you understand).

★★★

NOT ONLY am I surprised, shocked and stunned that Mrs Elizabeth Windsor has failed to rectify my omission from her New Year honours list — despite my obsession with keeping Westland Helicopters' production up by encouraging certain patriotic citizens along the border to bring Westland helicopters down — but I'm slightly miffed by a knight-hood being dished out to one Adam Courtauld Butler.

Adam was one of Sir Humpty Atkins' chaps in it!

★★★

BBC's *Spotlight* team was filming a canvass by Mid-Ulster Sinn Féin candidate Danny Morrison and his election team on Main Street, Omagh, — obviously the subject of some attention on an otherwise bleak, wind-swept and somewhat deserted day.

However, a white Manta car driven by a young man accompanied by a female companion pulled up at the

side of the road, the woman rolled down the window and enthusiastically beckoning Morrison over.

He bent down only to receive half a minute's torrent of abuse, ending with "So get away to fuck, you murdering IRA bastard!"

"Yes, but will you still vote for me?" asked the smiling thick-skinned Mid-Ulster hopeful.

★★★

AS A WARNING to those around me who may scoff at my grief on being denied a New Year honour, I feel I should repeat a timely and cautionary tale of a fellow pen-pusher in England.

A British army court-martial in Colchester last week heard how Warrant Officer (First Class) Paul Rowan couldn't face another day doing the books at an army pay office in Leicester, so, owing £5,000 and suffering from a "serious depressive illness", he threw the head and quit.

Clutching a 9mm Bro-

wning automatic pistol and 50 rounds of ammunition, Rowan went on a 150-mile joy-ride in an army minibus to Liverpool, dumped the bus, went to see a 'lady friend' in Cheshire (who kicked him out), took a train to Aberdeen, slept rough for two nights and tried to hijack a hotel minibus before being captured.

And what started all this off? Being unsuccessfully recommended for an MBE in 1984!

If there's no Liam Og next week you'll know the reason why.

★★★

WITH the help of their well-heeled political friends in Dublin, the SDLP held an expensive function in Kitty O'Shea's pub in Ringsend, Dublin, earlier this week to raise funds for Seamus Mallon's election campaign.

John Hume auctioned off his tie for £1,000 then he whipped off Seamus Mallon's blue, navy and yellow silk tie (which his daughter Orla had bought him for Christmas) and it was sold at the final bid of £700. Labour Party minister Ruairi Quinn then took off his tie and it was sold for £200.

Said Mr Mallon:

"I am very gratified by the turn-up here. It shows that there are issues in Irish politics when we can all club together. It happened before in the Forum on a greater and more effective scale."

Must have taken off their vests and long-johns.

★★★

MARCHING to the battle at Maryfield two weeks ago, in front of a banner which read "British rights for British citizens", and flanked by Boxcar Willie McCrea and Ian Paisley, was none other than Ro-

bert Fleming. Bob, a businessman from St Johnston, County Donegal, has received a total of £297,200 in grants

from the Industrial Development Authority for his St Johnston-based company and is presently politically schizophrenic.

★★★

THE SDLP's Seamus Mallon was out canvassing in Newry/Armagh a few days ago, reports Paul Johnson in Tuesday's *Guardian*, when he was told by the occupants of one house that they were going to vote for him but had changed their minds.

Mr Mallon asked why.

"The answer was simple," writes Johnson. "He had condemned the IRA killing of two policemen in Armagh city centre one minute into the New Year."

"The occupants did not like that. He should not have spoken out against the IRA when it was taking on the police and British army, they said."

## Dúirt siad

The essential aim of the deal is to eliminate nationalist alienation in 'the leafy suburbs', an alienation which caused deep concern in Dublin. Alienation in the ghettos is recognised by both governments to be so deep, the Provos' roots so far-flung, that any hope of rooting it out has become, like Irish unity itself, a long-term aspiration.

— Ed Moloney in *Fortnight* magazine.

\*\*\*

I think it's part of a plan on Paisley's part, no matter what he says about the union, to weaken the union by presenting the British people with the unacceptable face of unionism... He's after independence quite clearly.

— James Molyneux on Paisley as quoted in *The uncut wars* — Ireland today, before the London-Dublin agreement brought them together.

\*\*\*

I'll put one up on David Cook's house as well.

The ever-obliging loyalist Councillor George Seawright threatening Alliance Councillor David Cook because he took Belfast Council to court for illegally erecting a 'Belfast Says No' banner on the City Hall.

\*\*\*

I hope that the nationalist parties will find it possible to recognise publicly the RUC's determination to impartially uphold the law and the protection they give to both parts of the community.

— Direct-ruler Tom King.

\*\*\*

The foreshortened hunger-strike also diminishes the symbolism of the protest and tarnishes the martyr quality that appeals so greatly to the atavistic Catholic mind, and which was so ably exploited by Sinn Féin after 1981.

— More like atavistic *Punch* journalism from the Irish Times Northern editor, Jim Cusack.

\*\*\*

Their (the nationalists') basic demand is not for a re-united Ireland, but for the formal and practical recognition of their national identity ('a united Ireland' is merely their conventional way of expressing that demand).

— Federalist Desmond Fennell confusing things.

\*\*\*

As a legal observer I was very surprised to be checked twice in the courtroom and to be so tightly surrounded by policemen. We know such court situations exist in other countries, such as Chile and Turkey, but to see it in Belfast under British law is different.

— Michele Bonnehore of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers who is attending the appeal case of those convicted on the evidence of paid-perjurer Christopher Black.

\*\*\*

The fear in London and Dublin is that any sizeable swing away from the SDLP towards Sinn Féin, which opposes the agreement, will be seen as a drastic blow to constitutional nationalism.

— News Letter report.

\*\*\*

The SDLP, in particular, would have been wiser to have declared from the outset that it would not get involved. As it is, the party has been put in a position of defending the Anglo-Irish agreement in constituencies where other factors, and traditional loyalties, are likely to weigh just as heavily with nationalist voters.

— Irish Press editorial.

NOTES  
OCCURRENCE

