

The Irish People

AN CHOISMHUINTIR
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THIS WEEK:
Women's rights pages 4 and 5

Spy drama continues

When Paul Tinnelly was shot dead at the door of his mother's shop in Rostrevor, Co. Down less than a fortnight ago a link was broken in a strange chain of events which led to the tiny village via Dublin Castle, Mountjoy Jail, Drogheda and Dundalk.

Tinnelly had close links with the spy-brothers Littlejohn; links which led him to take part in 'daring' raids on banks in Newry and Dublin, carried out with the support of the British Army.

The luckless Tinnelly and confessed spy Kenneth Littlejohn boasted to friends at their hideout at Clogherhead, near Drogheda, that they had 'no fear of arrest' as they had 'the Dundalk/Drogheda area' as they had 'the Special Branch on the payroll'.

This boast was no idle one because not only were Littlejohn and other wanted men able to move freely about Co. Louth, mixing with the top social set, but Tinnelly was 'caught' twice by armed Special Branchmen, once in Dundalk and once at The Halfway House at the Border, and in each case 'wriggled' out of the armed Branchmen's grip and escaped.

And Littlejohn's broadcast accounts of his famous escape from Mountjoy bear testimony to the fact that he still had a 'grip' on the Dundalk/Drogheda area. He slept in ditches until he crossed the Boyne at Drogheda but then felt safe enough to relax in Dundalk's luxury Imperial hotel.

Did he still have 'no fear of arrest' in the Dundalk/Drogheda area?

CAR JOBS GO

General Motors will meet with little resistance from the Trade Unions to their plans to close the McCalmns and Reg Armstrong assembly plants in Dublin. The American conglomerate knows now that the noises heard from Trade Union leaders over the past year were nothing more than noises. Angry words will not be backed up by official militant action.

It is to the precedent set by the Unions in accepting the closure of British Leyland's plant at Kimmage that General Motors will point in

any negotiations on the McCalmns/Armstrong closures.

In the case of British Leyland the Unions were satisfied with the promise of alternative employment in a new seat-frame manufacturing plant at Ballyfermot. **There is no guarantee for the long term prospects of this plant other than the company's information that they "had obtained a declaration of intent from a number of the manufacturing Divisions of British Leyland"** that these would be interested in taking the Ballyfermot seatframes. However the new venture will be competing with established plants in England and Wales for this market.

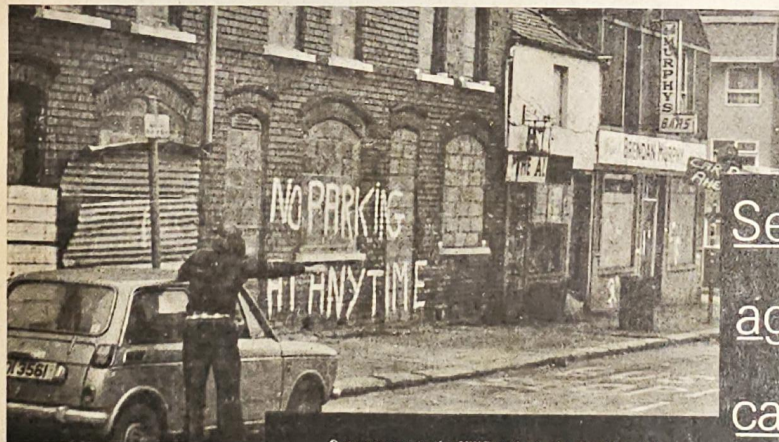
For this guarantee of alternative employment the Unions have surrendered a guarantee wrapped from the EEC through Union pressure on Minister for External Affairs, Dr. Patrick Hillery, in July 1971. This was that motor assembly jobs would be maintained at existing levels until 1985.

But workers in the industry saw in this 14 year breathing space an opportunity of assuring the long term prospects for the industry. Their optimism was shared by Dr. Hillery who said "there is no excuse now for any assembler not to take steps to ensure continued employment after 1985."

But the Union attitude now is "why wait until 1985?" — "if the jobs are to go why shouldn't they go now". And their pessimistic outlook is a Godsend to General Motors who are using the Irish assembly industry as a guinea pig in their European rationalisation plans.

GM recently told Industry and Commerce Minister, Justin Keating that they have selected Spain as the ideal centre for the company's European operations. Low wage rates and the particularly repressive attitude of the Government to trade unions are the main attractions. British Leylands plants in Spain (including one at Pamplona where 1,400 workers are at present locked out for demanding a pay increase) have been bought by GM for a reported figure of £27 million.

In the light of the Spanish deal the precedent created by the Union's concessions to British Leyland in Dublin take on added significance.



Brendan Murphy pic.

One response to the UWC strike in the North was the action by citizens to prevent the infiltration of car bombs. Albert Street, off the Falls Road, Belfast, has a complete ban on car-parking outside the only two public houses remaining in the area.

Other aspects of the Ulster Workers' Council strike are covered by Seamus Logue in North View, Page 6.

Security
against
car
bombers

The Irish People

An Choismhuintir, Friday, June 14, 1974.

Elections

Local Government elections in the South are being fought next week. Citizens are being encouraged to vote on the traditional party lines.

Posters remind us of the benefits of Fianna Fail, Fine Gael, Labour and the occasional "man you can trust".

There is one interesting slogan which places the people, the voter, at the head of the list.

And this is really what elections should be all about. Instead we are treated to a carnival of name dropping, party slogans and reminders of the corrupt behaviour of the other fellow.

Local Government which should be the area where citizens feel that they can most influence matters which affect the quality of their lives arouses little interest.

Low polls are a clear indication of the extent to which people feel that the town hall or city hall are the preserves of the big parties and that the candidates are simply preparing a path to more lucrative positions.

In this election in particular voters will be considering high prices, housing and education. Since entry into the Common Market the cost of living has soared.

Parties who were most loud in proclaiming the benefits of EEC membership should now pay the penalty.

Housing, the cost of purchasing or renting a home, is eating a growing portion of the workers' pay packets. Legislation is required to curb speculation in building and rack rent landlords.

There is finally the question of the quality of education and the access of a privileged few to higher education.

Voters will be looking at programmes which provide an educational system where the poorest of our children will be catered for.

There will certainly be the usual low poll but we can hope that the candidates returned will be committed to the service of the people.

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Contestants in the Local Government Elections are this week meeting first hand with the grouses of citizens on many issues. Paramount among these is housing conditions. Two areas of Dublin provide a striking contrast of what citizens are striving for (or against).

In The Donahies, Raheny, canvassers are being shown the condition in which Builder Developers have left a residential estate, Crossspan Developments Ltd., Connolly Construction Co. Ltd. and Connought Estates who were responsible for the development, have angered residents by a "couldn't care less" attitude to approaches from the local Committee.

Roads into the estate have been barricaded by protestors; pickets have been placed on Crossspan's latest development at Grange Abbey and on Connolly's development at Stillorgan.

By contrast, tenants of Dublin Corporation, living in Mount Pleasant Buildings in the Rathmines area want a number of flats which have gone beyond repair demolished and replaced with a new building.

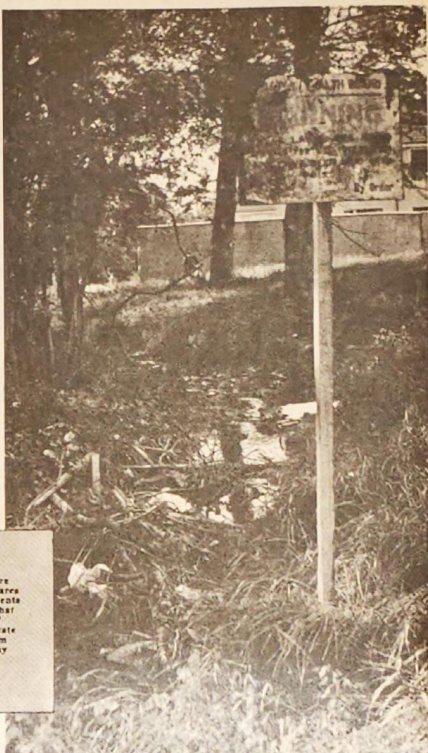
They received the full backing of election candidate, Peigin Doyle, who has a long record of agitation for the improvement of the lot of the Mount Pleasant dwellers.

And in Cork where the condition of N.B.A. estates are a hot election issue the Chairman of the No. 5 Branch of the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union, Mr. James (Doc) Doherty has called for the imposition of a time limit on land acquisition for housing proceedings.

Mr. Doherty who is a candidate for the Corporation says that where land is required for housing the local authority should have power to determine the level of compensation, the land-owner should have one month in which to appeal against the purchase order after which any court proceedings and subsequent decision be given within a further month.

LOCAL GOVT. ISSUE

Children play here in a rat infested area in Raheny. Residents are demanding that the developers of the Donahies Estate culvert the stream and make the play area safe.



LETTER

Jesuit answers

Sir,
"Bus Strike Jesuit led?" (May 24) was a peculiar feature. You deplore "Jesuits interfering in the trade union movement" on the ground that it is "the one place in this country where there is some common ground between Protestant and Catholic".
Apart from the obvious exaggeration in this statement, it reveals a mentality as rigidly embedded in the past as that of Dr. I. Paisley. Do you really believe that the Jesuits have the same kind of attitude to Protestants, as he has to "Rome"? Come in to the 20th century, and if possible into the 70's!
And by the way, in your view, should Jesuits be denied the ordinary rights of citizens in a

democracy?
Narrow, doctrinaire, bitter, class prejudices—which you show in your deploring the fact that we teach "collaboration" rather than "militancy", division and presumably violence—these can be just as destructive of hope in Ireland as any other form of sectarianism. Surely collaboration, or co-operation, is more needed in Ireland at present than militancy, para-militancy and pseudo-anti-sectarianism.

And where do you stand as regards intimidation? O.K. against "Jesuit-led" N.B.U. men?
All I can say about your comments on the late Jimmy Dunne, is that I would prefer the ordinary Dubliner's estimate of him, as more perceptive as well as more kindly, than yours. He rang true.
Michael Sweetman S.J.



COUNTDOWN

Fethard

Residents of Houseland, some of whom have to go up to three or four miles away to get water, have threatened to withdraw water rates of a booster station, to improve the local supply, is not installed immediately. Residents also claim that the present supply is getting worse rather than better and that the present supply is seldom more than two in every twenty four hours.

Drogheda

Members of Drogheda Corporation heard a suggestion that the present planning act be scrapped and local authorities given greater powers in planning matters at a recent meeting. Members were discussing a proposal that immediate steps be taken to prevent housing development taking place on parklands at Stameen.

The land, which id due to come within the Drogheda Borough Boundary shortly, presented a unique opportunity of providing a public park, in the opinion of the Corporation, and housing development would destroy a potentially valuable amenity.

Galway

On the eve of the local government elections a Fine Gael candidate for Galway Corporation and County Council has been made a Peace Commissioner by the Minister for Justice, Pádraig Connolly, a twenty-five year old insurance official, was director of elections for Tom O'Higgins in his bid for the Presidency last year.

Roscommon

Picketing on water pumping stations in Roscommon has been lifted pending a joint meeting of unions involved in the strike of local authority engineers, the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and the Local Government and Public Services Union. The County and City Managers Association is also concerned with the dispute.

The central issue in the strike which has threatened to bring essential services to a standstill in many counties, is whether the AEUW be allowed to represent and organise local authority engineers, a proposal which is opposed by the LGPSU.

New Ross

There is every sign that the growth rate recorded over the past four years in New Ross port will be exceeded this year. Figures for the half year period ending in May showed tonnage through the port was up by 50,000 tons on last year.

A total of 245 ships passed through the port during the period compared to 21 last year.

Mallow

Mallow Credit Union has travelled far since the day in 1963 when it was first established by less than twenty people.

Within the space of eleven years share capital has grown to £180,000 serving a membership of 1,600.

Eleven years' effort has now culminated in the purchase and renovation of new premises in O'Brien St. The premises were opened last Saturday by Nora Herlihy, one of the founders of the credit union movement in Ireland.

Irish trade unions must unite now!!

	1971	1972
New Houses	13,916	11,650
Houses		
Demolished	4,294	2,623
Additional		
Houses (Net)	9,622	9,025
Marriages	12,256	11,987

The squatter of Caledon would seem not to have had much concern for the 2,700 couples who could not find a home of their own. The figures also do not show the sort of gerry built flats being thrown up in the Belfast area.

CURRIE'S RECORD DISMAL

In his brief spell as Housing Minister in the defunct Northern Executive, Mr. Austin Currie as well as introducing the 25p fine on those who answered his 1971 exhortation to go on Rent Strike also earned for himself another distinction.

The figures for the Currie era indicate that new houses to be completed this year will drop below the dismal figure of 10,550 for 1973. Completions in the previous 5 years numbered 11,650 (in 1972), 13,916 (1971), 11,834 (1970), 11,531 (1969), and 12,120 (1968).

These figures are inclusive of houses built for renting and those for sale. But when a cutback comes it is the houses for rent which take the greatest knock. A comparison between the figures for 1971 and 1972 (the first year of Whitelaw's) bears adequate testimony to this.

Of the 13,916 houses completed in 1971, 9,215 were for rent and 4,701 were for sale. The "crash" to 11,650 in 1972 meant that while the figure for residential (sale) houses fell by 300 the number of working class (rented) houses was chopped by a dramatic 1,900.

Development Ministry

Senator Fintan Kennedy, General President of the I.T. & G.W.U., called upon Irish Trade Unionists to work in unity through the Irish Congress of Trade Unions for their aims and aspirations, during his presidential address to the Union's annual conference in Bundoran.

His call was particularly directed at workers in the Six Counties but must have appeared ironic to many Dublin workers, footsore from slogging to and from work without public transport. On the day the lofty sentiments for unity were expressed the prospect of unity among Dublin busmen seemed more distant than ever.

Each day of this dispute has hardened the divisions between the Congress Road Passenger Group of Unions and the National Busmen's Union, while the enemies of organised labour have engaged in their traditional attack upon trade unions and nationalised industry.

The words of Fintan Kennedy sound particularly hollow when one recalls that the exponents of a breakaway union in 1964 were facilitated by his public references to Dublin busmen as a mob. He also participated in the witch-hunt against representatives of the men, some of whom never left the I.T. & G.W.U. in spite of vicious disciplinary action.

A new union to represent "all C.I.E. busmen" was formed and one more group of workers set out on a brave effort to build a democratic militant trade union outside the Irish Congress of Trade Unions.

Now a decade later, no union represents all busmen and the workers are divided effectively down the middle. Wages and conditions are no model and while one man buses and the five day week are still preoccupying busmen our nationalised transport system continues to sink deeper into the mire.

A decade after Fintan Kennedy had referred to Dublin busmen as a mob, the 'militant' leaders of the new union have shown themselves capable of passing pickets, calling for legal sanction against strikers and making abusive public attacks against their fellow workers.

The Congress Group must face criticism for their failures as must the whole trade union movement. They must share the blame for sectarianism, the lack of civil rights and the absence of national control of our resources.

Present divisions among workers North or South are the harvest we all must reap for our neglect. These divisions are only an illustration of the political weakness of our class and it is time we faced up squarely to that reality. These divisions only reflect the present state of Irish Trade Unionism — the strength and unity of Irish workers sapped by sectionalism, sectarian strife and narrow nationalism.

The solution to our problems is not more sectionalism but the strengthening of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions. The N.B.U. or any combination of M.P. & G.W.U., Seamen's Union, P.O.O.A. or indeed the Loyalist Workers Council ARE NO ALTERNATIVE to a powerful ICTU with a democratic structure and revolutionary leadership.

Instead of infighting, Irish trade unionists should direct their energies towards making ICTU a powerful weapon of the Irish working class. There must be no opting out.



statistics also illustrate that despite ballyhoo no real progress is being made to tackle the housing crisis in the Six Counties.

For example in the peak year of 1971 when 13,916 new houses were completed the number of houses demolished totalled 4,294 leaving the net figure of additional houses made available at 9,622. The number of marriages in that

year alone was 12,256 — these couples naturally became immediate candidates for houses.

In the accompanying table the figures of new houses built, houses demolished, the net figure of additional houses as well as the number of marriages for 1971-72 (the last year for which complete figures are available) are given.

The Irish People PEOPLE



Frank Crummy

There are probably people in this country who have nightmares about Frank Crummy. Which is rather funny when you realise that probably most of them have never even heard of the name but when you are someone who wants to see contraception legalised you have a capacity to raise unquiet dreams.

It is symptomatic of the hypocritical social attitudes that Frank Crummy comes across in his daily work that the idea of birth control can raise such hackles in people who have never allowed the thought of poverty, neglect, bad housing or getting the living daylight beaten out of you in school disturb their slumbers.

Anything further from the image of a leering Mephistoless carelessly dishing out French letters to chaste and innocent three year olds, the picture cherished by some of our more backwoods citizens, can hardly be imagined.

This director of the Irish Family Planning Association which runs the burgeoning family planning clinics and long time campaigner for the recognition of family planning as a human right, is slight, wiry, overworked and has an impenetrable sense of fun.

He has five children himself and much of his work is concerned with children. As a trained social worker with a Family Casework Agency, to which many problem cases are referred, his work takes him in and out of Court and around the north central area of Dublin, including Sean McDermott and Gardiner St. cockpits of poverty and official neglect.

Against this background he can place the whole issue of contraception into its

proper context as part of a much wider social problem.

It would not be true to say that sex education in itself is the object of his work but rather education about sexuality as part of a wider human relationship.

Irish People have a terrible inability to form a lasting relationship with another being, he thinks, and single sex education, carried out by celibate clerics who equate the flesh with evil, has much to do in forming these attitudes.

Much of the underlying brutality of Irish life he attributes to the effects of our education system. We are not a race of alcoholics for nothing.

If he ever lost his hands he would be struck dumb. They twist, turn, emphasise and punctuate, doing half of his talking for him.

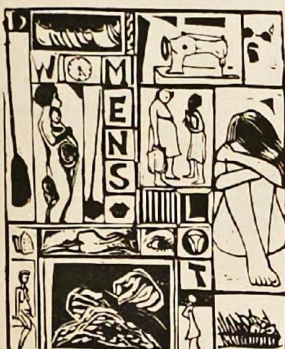
He gestures somewhere near floor level to show the level of his respect for the Irish medical profession. Always opposed to progress and social improvement, as in the notorious case of the Mother and Child Scheme, their first and foremost thought is money.

In a cynical reflection on the social priorities of our doctors he reckons that many of the problems associated with making the means of family planning widely available will go as soon as our doctors and consultants find that there is some money in it for them.

He awaits a great rallying around the flag of contraception by the medical profession when there is a chance of getting some profit out of it.

PEIGIN DOYLE

The les



Miss de Burca motivated by a different political outlook on Women's Liberation

Mairin de Burca makes four points:

- i) A personal attack on Ann Devlin.
- ii) She claims that the Irish Women's Liberation Movement was founded by Socialists and that they adopted a reasonable and intelligent programme for action.
- iii) She asserts that women must organise in a separate group because they are oppressed by men.
- iv) She argues that women are not truly free anywhere in the world.

i) To give Mairin de Burca the benefit of the doubt I will assume that her none too constructive personal tirade against Ann Devlin was not prompted by a spirit of vindictiveness but rather was motivated by the different political outlook she has from Ann Devlin on the question of women's liberation. Consequently I will ignore her personal attack and deal only with the political one.

ii) Mairin de Burca claims that the Irish Women's Liberation Movement was founded by socialists. If in fact these women were scientific socialists—any other interpretation of the word is euphemistic abuse—then they would have proceeded from the premise that only the working class can make a socialist revolution and would have organised women to play their vital role in the class struggle.

The attitudes expressed in "Chains or Change" are not derived from this premise however but from the belief that all women, regardless of class, are oppressed and that therefore the movement for women's liberation could be all things to all women.

At best this outlook could be described as Utopian. Confused strategy bred confused tactics. For example: the reasonable and intelligent aim of "Family Planning as a human right" could have been worked for in a serious and systematic manner e.g. letter-writing, lobbying, petitions, etc.

The socialists however neglected such propaganda and organisational groundwork and therefore have themselves as much as the "overwhelmingly male and trendy female media" to blame for the adverse publicity received by the flamboyant Contraceptive Train.

Without doubt countless working-class women must have been alienated from the movement for women's liberation by that demonstration.

The other aims of the movement were equally lacking in a back-up plan of action, e.g. Equality before the Law. It is ironic to think that in effect this would mean women from deprived backgrounds being tried in Courts before property owning women jurors.

Or again, being arrested for obstructing Gardaí outside Leinster House might by a stretch of the imagination, be considered active opposition to the Forcible Entry and

Occupation Act but it is certainly not a tactic to be advocated by scientific socialists.

iii) Mairin de Burca distorts James Connolly in asserting working-class men oppress working-class women and therefore women must organise in separate groups.

She has fallen into the trap of feminism in implying that, in the last analysis, sex war, not class war will be the instrument for establishing a socialist society. Certainly women must organise specifically around their own oppression for the simple reason that as women and as members of the working class, in other words as the slaves of slaves, they are doubly oppressed under capitalism, women therefore must lead the struggle for their own liberation, this struggle being an integral part of the struggle for socialism.

It is a serious mistake however to believe that the ideology of women's liberation can of itself be a revolutionary ideology, or that the struggle for women's liberation is of itself more revolutionary than the struggle of the working-class for socialism.

iv) Mairin de Burca argues that women are not truly free anywhere in the world. "In most countries that claim to have liberated their women this usually means that their women are free to do two jobs at a time". In saying this she fully justifies Ann Devlin's criticism that the socialists in the Founders Group were lacking in any real knowledge of the basics of scientific socialism, that few of them had read such essential works as Engels' "The Family, Private Property and the State".

Engels established that the oppression of women in the family had an economic basis and that as long as women remained excluded from socially productive work there could be no significant change in their status in society. Thus the liberation of women is dependent on the liberation of labour, woman's condition can only change significantly in the event of revolution in the mode of production.

It is ridiculous for Mairin de Burca to denounce the status of women in socialist countries. Surely it is self-evident that women will always bear children: in capitalist society women are slaves economically and socially to this fact, in socialist countries however this slavery is abolished and women are equal members of society.

In conclusion then it is sad to see that Mairin de Burca, as a socialist, is ignoring the important lessons to be learnt from the failure of the Irish Women's Liberation Movement. Ann Devlin in pointing out that the Left has been given a second chance, that the battle can be started again, is being constructive in pointing out these lessons at the present time.

MARY REID



Before the company hires her...



you should make sure she's not pregnant.

PREGNOSTICOM SLIDE TEST

Miss Devlin's defence of battered husbands (I.R.) makes sad and nasty. Bullying husbands—distress from all classes—disseminate and contempt of No one expects the harassed worker to be "an angel" only that he directs his anger against his exploiters. Miss Devlin's defence accordingly rather than miserable victims. The he is ever the street-angel who to his superiors. Hardly a good prospect. This is not a

THE IRISH PEOPLE better question of Women's Rights in political, economic and social of our times.

Women when married know better half' are in fact subject manner of legal and physical

The replies on these pages Devlin's trenchant attack on the old Women's Liberation will, we hope, provoke serious and ACTION on the whole Women's Rights.

THEIR

ser half

A call to (wo)man the barricades for the revolution

That was a curious piece of fantasy Ann Devlin indulged herself in last week on the Irishwomen's Liberation movement. No doubt it reflects what she wishes were the solution, but unfortunately her information is as inaccurate as her analysis.

Let's begin, though, with the analysis. Miss Devlin appears to be saying that male chauvinism doesn't exist, which is a bit like telling blacks that racism is a myth, or Derry Catholics that there's no such thing as religious bigotry, or Guinea-Bissau citizens that the Portuguese people aren't really living off their backs. In the true manner of ultra-leftists, Miss Devlin grandly dismisses such realities with a call to (wo)man the barricades for the revolution now! I'd love to hear her telling a factory girl taking home £10 less per week than her male counterpart that male privilege doesn't exist.

All oppressed groups are oppressed by other social groups as they are by the capitalist system; that is why the system works so effectively, by fostering privilege to divide people. The fact that the ultimate cause of oppression is the common enemy doesn't change the fact that exploitation and discrimination exist all along the line. When the group at the bottom of the ladder first asserts a demand for rights it always comes into immediate conflict with the group one

rung up, who see their privilege in jeopardy.

This conflict must be resolved before both groups can unite in any greater fight. It is rubbish to pretend there is no sex struggle, just as it would be to ignore racial or religious or national struggles. One way or another, most men undermine the campaign for equality for women.

This being the case it is understandable why some women focus intensely on male attitudes and male supremacy as the cause of their troubles. There are plenty of blacks in America who are still inclined to blame Mister Charley for their problems, rather than the system; but I don't think we can shoot them for their misguided notions just yet. It is a singular achievement for the black civil rights movement that blacks have recognised their oppression, put it into articulate form and taken the first step toward ending it by demanding equal rights.

So also is this the achievement of Women's Liberation. In the process, common ground has been discovered on bases other than class. Of course there is some essential solidarity between California matrons and Dublin office girls. Just as there is between Dublin office girls and itinerant mothers in Galway. It is not a betrayal of socialist principle to accept similarities where they exist and use them where they are

useful for the purpose of throwing off the immediate oppressor. I don't want to get into Miss Devlin's game of recommended reading lists, but she could just check Lenin's defence of Connolly's participation in that bourgeois affair of 1916. The suggestion that the main trend of Irishwomen's Liberation movement was in the direction of either husband-hating or continual sexual analysis, however, is absolutely untrue; could it be that Miss Devlin came to know this tiny section better than the rest? Anyhow, most of us never got to any of these extraordinary parties, "working class" parties dominated by "guilty middle class drop-outs" where the women solemnly snuffed together to discuss their illidos.

The main emphasis of Irishwomen's Liberation is perfectly evident from their manifesto, which made six basic demands:

—adequate housing, because the burden of family care falls on women and they cannot hope to take up other issues while they live in squalor and fear over necessities;

—contraception, for virtually the same reason;

—equal pay;

—equality before the law;

—equality in educational opportunities; justice for deserted wives, unmarried mothers and widows.

If there is anything trendy there, I fall

to see it; some might call it positively bourgeois reformist. These issues were chosen because we judged them to be the most relevant to Irishwomen at the time. From the beginning, the movement was presented as a civil rights campaign, which it was, from the beginning, we continually stressed that we not only wanted the support of men but felt our cause was theirs — which it is.

Every single one of these demands presents a real threat to the Establishment in some form; every one furthers the cause of the class struggle. I believe that every one has an impact since that time, though I don't think the campaign was as carefully thought out and executed as it might have been.

The reasons why that specific movement fell apart, however, are numerous, mainly organisational, and subject for another debate. In the meantime I would hope that Miss Devlin would re-consider what she's said. People get enough trite, naive, simplistic and arrogant left-wing jargon being at them from the back pages of magazines as it is; I think she can do better.

This is the sort of writing that could be saved for the other pure revolutionaries at the regular meetings of the William Thompson Fan Club. (Is a California matron less potentially worthy than a Cork landlady?)

MARY MAHER

the one
true gospel
a la Devlin



war of the sexes — simply a case of grossly unmatched contenders in a wrestling match.

The contention of Miss Devlin that the Women's Liberation Movement was the invention of bored middle-class women is far off the mark. Its main impetus came from women disillusioned by the patronizing domineering attitudes of their male colleagues in 'revolutionary' organizations of every brand, who refused to take their intellectual competence seriously and insisted on treating them as sex objects, fit only for the most menial tasks.

So much for the assertion that the main part of the programme of these women was sexual permissiveness. Their best theorists were quick to point out that bedding birds, irrespective of the emotional havoc wrought in many cases, seemed to be one of the 'revolutionary' tenets of these 'revolutionary' males. The idea appeared to be that human sexuality belonged to the 'nice cup of tea' category and that its complexities and far-reaching implications for the total person were inventions of the Angela Mac-Namaras and the Holy Joes. Girls who became involved and hurt when discarded like empty cartons were

of course politically backward.

The current concern of your organisation for women's rights is due mainly to the Women's Liberation Movement just as your concern for the Gaeltacht is due to Cearta Sibhialta na Gaeltachta which has also been unfairly castigated by your correspondent. Women and the Gaeltacht are sick and tired of the 'Mair a chapall agus gheobhair fear' brigade. The messianic tone of Miss Devlin fits her to accuse anyone of guruism. She will next week once again preach to the multitude the one true gospel a la Devlin. 'No, thanks, Miss Devlin. I have my own set of brains'.

CAITLIN MAUDE

Working women's Charter

1. The rate for the job, regardless of sex, at rates negotiated by the trade unions, with a national minimum wage below which no wages should fall.
2. Equal opportunity of entry into occupations and in promotion, regardless of sex and marital state.
3. Equal education and training for all occupations and compulsory day-release for all 16-19 years old in employment.
4. Working conditions to be, without deterioration of previous conditions, the same for women as for men.
5. The removal of all legal and bureaucratic impediments to equality, e.g., with regard to tenancies, mortgages, pension schemes, taxation, passports, control over children, social security payments, hire-purchase agreements.
6. Free 24 hour creches, day nurseries, nursery

classes and schools.

7. Six months maternity leave with full net pay before and after the birth of a live child; 7 weeks after birth if the child is stillborn. No dismissal during pregnancy or maternity leave. No loss of security, pension or promotion prospects. One month's paid maternity leave for fathers, to be taken at their discretion.

8. Family planning clinics supplying free contraception to be extended to every locality.

9. Family allowances to be increased to £2.50 per child, tax free, including the first child.

10. To campaign amongst women to take an active part in the trade unions and in political life so that they may exercise influence commensurate with their numbers and to campaign amongst men trade unionists that they may work to achieve this aim.

North
View

STRIKE GOT ARMY SUPPORT

The UWC strike is still the main topic of conversation in the North and in particular the role of the British Army.

For example, Lieut. General Sir Francis King, Britain's G.O.C. Northern Ireland, who invited himself to speak at an R.U.C. passing out parade in Enniskillen on June 6. There he informed the British Government and public that he was not in favour of bringing the troops back and that the build up of the R.U.C. must be continued.

During the U.W.C. strike the General had used the B.B.C. radio to inform the 'loyalists' and the Government 'I have advised the Government that troops should not be used in the present situation'.

General King has voted himself G.O.C. Northern Ireland for another six months and is no doubt bent on not using the troops when the open promises of pogrom stated by John Taylor, Ian Paisley, and William Craig are given effect in the coming months.

With a boneless wonder like Merlyn Rees to knuckle under there can be little doubt that General King's statement that the British Army is in Northern Ireland to protect the 'majority' from an insurrection by the 'minority' will continue to guide the actions of the 'professionals'.

While General King was airing his political lungs, in Enniskillen another General was giving forth at a Civil Defence conference at Bournemouth, on the 'mainland' as the British so patronisingly call their homeland.

General Sir Walter Walker, former N.A.T.O. Commander, was referring to the bovine apathy of those 'who ought to know better' meaning the British Politicians who refuse to recognise the subversion in Northern Ireland as a Russian plot which is supported by numerous socialist subversive groups on the 'mainland'.

Rumours are also circulating about the still unexplained disappearance of Mr. Niedermayer, former director of Grundig, Belfast. It is now being alleged that there was German, British complicity in the kidnapping via the Ulster Defence Association.

And it is also reported that Niedermayer was executed in London, having first been transported by boat to the Isle of Man. (At the time of his disappearance a boat mysteriously exploded off the coast of the island.)

Some Belfast political circles claim that Dr. Paisley has threatened to blow the full story at a suitable time.

Niedermayer's kidnapping has also been linked with the recent spy exposure in West Germany which shattered Brandt's political career.

SEAMUS LOGUE



● Niedermayer executed?

The threat at the Guinness Brewery of a further drastic reduction in the number of workers employed has again highlighted the danger of monopoly concerns applying the 'corporate profit' principle of their operations to a country such as ours.

Further investment will take place only where it will yield the greatest profit. Thus in the case of Guinness expansion will take place at Park Royal (London) and other overseas centres whilst the Irish industry at St. James' Gate (where the original know-how which now enables expansion to take place abroad was provided) will be run down due to its older less automated equipment and so as to suit the market strategy of the foreign interests now dominating the Guinness concern.

An earlier case where the corporate profit principle was applied was at Whitgate Refinery, Co. Cork, where some years ago one-third of the staff and craftsmen lost their jobs even following an increase in

output and profitability. This unemployment followed from studies carried out at the Esso refinery at Fawley, Southampton.

The historic Fawley Productivity Agreements resulted from the studies. Negotiated with trade unions and others concerned, these agreements, among other things, guaranteed that those remaining in the plants received higher pay. There was no lay-off of workers, in fact, since it was part of the agreement that the surplus manpower would immediately be employed on new plants erected as part of the refinery expansion.

The results of the Fawley investigations were then applied in England's 'oldest colony'. While no reduction in the labour force occurred at Fawley the lessons learned there were applied at Whitgate with an inhuman ruthlessness which totally disregarded the welfare of those displaced.

Irish chemical engineers and other technologists at Whitgate had plans for expansion into the field of petrochemicals and allied products manufacture. If their plans had been implemented no drop in employment would have been necessary while allowing a reasonable profit for the consortium of companies (Esso, Shell, B.P. and Texaco) involved in the Whitgate venture. Instead these companies found it more profitable to invest their money in the expansion of their more capital intensive refineries at Cologne and Rotterdam.

Irish workers, and especially trade-union leaders, should be warned against the apparent benevolence of the international monopoly concerns especially when they take over or make sizeable investments in traditional Irish industries. (An example is the Heinz-Erin setup.)

National interest forms no part in this power-game and when the monopolists at holding company level plan their activities they do so with reference to what is known as the 'Total Economic System' a jargon which does not refer to the boundary of any nation's territory, but to their international ramifications transcending national loyalties.

Failure

Senior management in these companies are expected to forego allegiance to their own countries and, especially to prevent senior staff and middle-management from seeing an identity of interest with their fellow workers organised in trade unions.

In countries like Ireland, with a tradition of struggle for national liberation, such senior levels of management tend to be reserved for a foreign elite. This obtains at Whitgate. And at Guinness the structure is reinforced by an aristocracy known as the 'Brewers' drawn exclusively from Oxford and Cambridge universities.

Indeed the Guinness failure to employ chemical engineers in a decision making capacity is a reflection of the cumbersome and outmoded managerial structure inherited from the days of easy money from the sale of potable alcohol. In fact, Guinness now employ no chemical engineers at all. Another reflection of their incompetence was the failure to define the company's objective in terms of fermentation products. The Guinness skill and know-how in alcohol fermentation would find a logical extension in the manufacture of the type of products which the Pfizer Company will now produce at East Cork. Expansion into such fields would have served to mop up any redundancies at St. James' Gate.

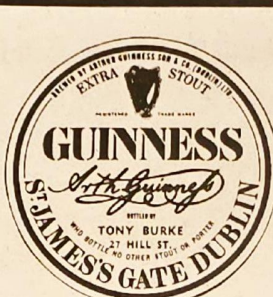
Faceless

There is no doubt that as it stands at present the Guinness brewery at St. James' Gate is still a profitable concern. But not profitable enough to run the 'Total Economic System' of the finance capitalists concerned.

If a decision is implemented either to reduce the number employed or to re-tool and eventually shut down the brewery this will be done by the faceless men in London. Irish workers and technologists should demand that not a single Irish national loses his job as a non-national is employed.

It would be desirable, short of outright nationalisation, that a demand be made on the government to acquire a large share of the equity capital of the brewery and thereby exercise a watching brief on its operations.

Dr. C. S. (Todd) Andrews in his obituary panegyric to the late Mr. Sean Lemass put it on record that it was one of his regrets that he did not nationalise Whitgate refinery. Any concern which Lemass may have felt with regard to Whitgate would apply with even greater force to a traditional Irish industry which in the first place should never have been allowed to fall under foreign domination.



NOT SO GOOD FOR DUBLIN WORKERS

A strike for the first time in the long history of the company. Agitation by retired employees protesting against the Guinness policy of deducting sums equivalent to State allowances from company pensions.

These are indications of a change in the paternalistic attitude towards employees by the owners of Guinness' brewery. And while evidence of this change manifests itself there is growing speculation that the St. James' Gate brewery will shortly change hands.

Just over three years ago Mr. Derry Kelleher, representative of the Chemical Advisory Committee of the A.S.T.M.S., warned of the possibility of a close-down of the brewery.

On that occasion Lord Moynie (Bryan Guinness) wrote Mr. Kelleher that "no such wrong headed suggestion" had ever been contemplated by the owners.

AN BEAL BOCHT



A MESSAGE FROM — CONOR CRUISE O'BRIEN

It would perhaps be not unreasonable of me to assume that some widespread curiosity concerning my reactions to the collapse of the Sunningdale agreement animates the readers of the Irish People.

Beyond nightly appearances on radio and television together with a brilliant solo performance on my Late Late Show the public in general has had little opportunity to tease out the fascinating complexities of my position.

To borrow a pithy expression from an old Mallow peasant of my acquaintance, "What do he make of it all?"

What I make of it can be ascertained by considering two scenarios. One is benign, the other indubitably malignant.

In the malign scenario I have spent the past few weeks in the annexe of Roy Jenkins Maida Vale house, guarded only by a Swedish au pair girl who once worked for Dag Hammarskjöld, attempting to convince him that he should weigh in the Price Sisters deal and issue a public statement which would succinctly repudiate moral blackmail in the following terms, "Yah boo, you're staying in England after all."

In the benign scenario I have extended section 31 of the Broadcasting Act to prohibit all appearances by RTE staff on my television service. This will mean that I will present Feach, Tangents, 7 Days and above all the Late Late Show exclusively on my own.

As I shall win all the panel and quiz games and also say Mass on Sundays, the saving to the taxpayer will be enormous.

This scenario exists, I might add, only in the demented minds of the National Union of

Journalists.

Since Sunningdale I have spent idyllic weeks re-reading the Metaphysical Poets, cutting pages out of my Writers And Politics which seemed too harsh on Richard Nixon and taking long walks with Maire around the gorse covered slopes of the Hill of Howth.

Only one incident has marred these pastoral strollings. Last week, while pursuing the great ugly butterfly known as the Criostoir O'Floinn moth Maire and I fell across the recumbent figure of David Thornley T.D. who with a hurley to his shoulder was making clicking noises, mouthing "bang bang" together with such imprecations as "One for the Taigs, bang."

Maire took him gently home by the scruff of his neck and read to him from Nua Bhearsaiocht for over an hour. The same poem, I need scarcely add. Later, Dr. John O'Connell called for him and took him away in a car.

Justin Keating phoned me to say that he would get him a job in Alcan. That is what the Labour Party means.

Throughout the whole episode, Brendan Halligan kept his head. He kept it between his two hands, securely locked between his knees, rocking to and fro, murmuring to himself the few words of Irish he had learned from Maire in the cradle.

When the whole unpleasant business was finished he looked up and remarked "Dr. O'Brien, that fellow Thornley always reminds me of Albert Camus."

Struck by this remark from one who never reads anything more than the Party's annual report, I asked him to account for this bizarre comparison.

"Because he's a Bloody Plague," said Halligan.

Messrs. Donald M. Pratt and H. P. D. Pratt are not too happy with Mairin de Burca at the moment. Both, directors of Owl Investments Ltd., are highly annoyed because Miss de Burca has objected to the granting, by Dublin Corporation, of outline planning permission to Jason Holdings Limited for the development of property at Fenian Street and Denzille Lane.

And to add to their indignation Miss de Burca has scorned an approach from Mr. Donald Pratt to withdraw her objection, her objection which he described as "a waste of the Inspector's time, the time of the officials of the Planning Department of the Corporation, of your time and of mine."

Miss de Burca's objection to the proposed development was based on her belief that accommodation for families on the Dublin Corporation list should be provided on the sites. (In preparing the sites for development at Fenian Street it will be remembered that Jason Holdings destroyed a number of perfectly good houses in which working class families were accommodated).

"I am sure that you do not really expect a private developer to build houses of that type in a main street in a capital city", Mr. Pratt said in his May 27 letter to Miss de Burca. "The residential accommodation which Jason will build will not be of Dublin Corporation housing type but then surely what a city requires is a mixture of Corporation type housing, executive type of accommodation and offices," wrote Mr. Pratt.

Jason

Fenian Street already had "an ample supply of Corporation flats" and had "none of the executive type flats planned by Jason," he added. He felt, therefore, that Jason would be "fulfilling an undoubted need."

Miss de Burca replied on May 29 refusing to withdraw her objections. She reiterated that accommodation for those on the Dublin Corporation list should be provided on the sites. This accommodation could take the form of houses for families or maisonettes for single or old people, said Miss de Burca pointing out that she had "no doctrinaire views" on what type.

This particularly irked Mr. Pratt who wrote to Miss de Burca on May 30 saying: "You remind me of that very successful capitalist Mr. Henry Ford Senior, who stated that people could have 'any damn colour car they like provided that it is black'."

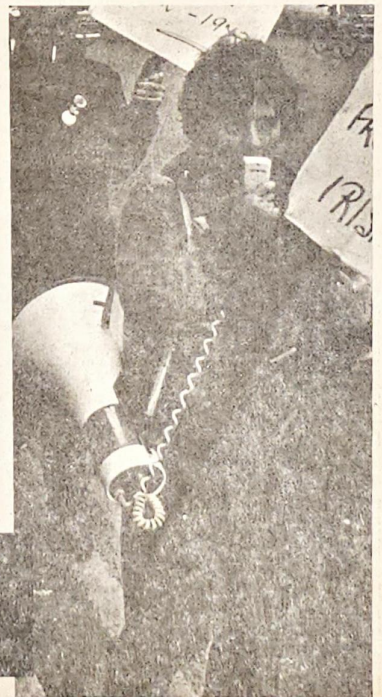
Of Miss de Burca's assurance that she would abide by the decision of the Local Authority (the Corporation) on the matter, Mr. Pratt commented, "it certainly is generous of you."

The Fenian Street saga is by no means over.

Mairin de Burca

She reminded Mr. Pratt of Henry Ford Senior. But the director of Owl Investments Ltd. also felt that at the same time she could be generous, but not for his intentions.

Any damn colour if it is black



FLYING COLUMN



Fame is the Spur

Back in the 1950s if you were oppressed by unemployment, there was nothing better to take your mind off it all than a good adventure novel by Howard Spring.

One of the best romantic novelists of the Great Open Spaces, his yarns were based on careful research. His bestseller of course, was a novel about South Africa, *Fame is the Spur* which I picked up at one of the useful booksales organised by the Connolly Youth Movement. In case anybody had forgotten where Sir Alfred Beit's money came from here is an interesting extract from page 223 of my edition.

"He recalled his early days in Kimberley . . . He told me that he had known Alfred Beit when Beit first came out here. I said to him that I supposed Beit had had to work like a slave to make his fortune. Carradus laughed and said,

"Beit work? You don't make fortunes like Beit's by working. Let me tell you about Beit . . . He wrote to his father in Hamburg and the old man screwed together a couple of thousand pounds and sent it out to him. Did Alfred buy diamonds? Not he

. . . People were flocking here in droves, diamond mad. They were shouting for offices — houses. That's what Alfred gave them. He bought a bit of land and put up twelve shanties. D'you know what he got for them? Eighteen hundred pounds a month! Twenty-one thousand six hundred pounds a year, for years and years, for at least a dozen years. At the end of that time Alfred sold the land the shacks stood on, and now boy, hold your breath and I'll tell you what he got for it. Two hundred and sixty thousand pounds. No. You don't work for a fortune if your name's Beit. You put your mouth tight on the nipple and suck."

"I suppose Carradus's story is true enough and it bears out what I have observed all over the world. It's not the worker or the inventor who makes a fortune. It's the smart chap who nips in and gets a hold on the land and what's under it or on it.

"Old Astor in New York; the coal-royalty owners in England and Wales; Lord Lostwithiel with his Manchester slums . . . who is paying Alfred Beit eighteen hundred pounds a month for twelve shacks? Why, thousands of people who produce the eighteen hundred pounds worth of goods that Mr. Beit was at liberty to consume. They had to produce this before they could produce anything for themselves — Mr. Beit on their backs because Mr. Beit had been a smart chap.

"All very elementary thinking, I know that if I open my mouth about it someone will say: How can it be altered? Well I am glad to have seen all this with my own eyes . . . To have seen and worked among the negroes who bring the wealth to Mr. Beit's feet like retrievers bringing bones . . ."

In the novel this diary entry is for Kimberley in 1888. The Alfred Beit in question is the revered grandfather of the gentleman who lives in Blessington. Behind the glorious facade of Russborough House, lie the twelve shanties of Kimberley. Perhaps the soapy James White in the National Gallery would buy himself a copy of *Fame is the Spur* and learn something about the real History of Art, in the age of Imperialism.

Transport

There is now no doubt about the existence of a well-organised campaign to break up the State transport service and hand it back to private enterprise.

For the last two weeks letters have been appearing in the *Evening Press* and *Evening Herald* under various pseudonyms such as Disgusted Walker, demanding that C.I.E. be given back to private profiteers.

One of the worst examples was the feature article by Liam O'Cuanaigh last Friday entitled "Buses — Privately Owned, Non-union, Unsubsidised and Successful!" This touching little tale was about Kennelly's of Waterford who run a shuttle service from Ferrybank in Waterford to Ballygunner.

It is depressing to see a decent journalist like O'Cuanaigh lending himself to this. There was no mention in the article of how people on an

uneconomic route would get to work, if Kennelly's were in charge.

Across the whole of Ireland the derelict lines of West Cork, the West Clare railway, Donegal, the Harcourt St. route and countless others are mute testimony to Todd Andrews's loutish attempts to apply private profit to public transport.

The struggle to keep C.I.E. in State hands is an issue on which all C.I.E. workers can unite and it should surely transcend the inter-union struggle, which is giving propaganda material to the private enterprise lobby.

Against the Stream

Going against the stream is the honourable description which describes taking up a principled position on the left, in opposition to the current orthodoxy.

On Women's Liberation and the UWC strike, while not exactly going against the stream, I have had to dip the occasional toe in the water. A shoal of very queer fish indeed have gathered to deliver the odd venomous nip.

Without prejudging the Women's Lib issue it is fair comment to remark that my opponents have been personal rather than political. Knowing this, they have thrown the word trotskyite and ultra left in my direction, sensing accurately that I find these terms particularly offensive, having fought these heresies since I could use a typewriter.

This abuse devalues political language, especially when used by people whose public activities range from simple anarchism to genteel social democracy.

Anyone who wants to know what goes against the stream really involves has only to turn to page five of Ireland's leading Trotskyite glossy whose name I shall not give in case anyone would buy it.

Here Tomas MacGiolla is abused for his Belfast Easter speech in which he talked of the need to "defend and cherish the Protestant way of life". The ultra left, in common with the Irish Left in general, sees no class tension within the UWC and no progressive advance in the emergence of an anti-

Imperialist Protestant nationalism.

This despite the glaring tensions between people like Ken Gibson and Col. Bush which broke out on a public platform during the Loyalist victory rally. And are we to believe that back in 1960 all Irish Republicans were full-fledged socialists? Seriously?

Beauty

An alert Waterford correspondent is worried that in praising Karl Mullen's public spirit in contributing to the 'Keep Ireland Beautiful' ad, I might have neglected Liam Connellan — Director General of the C.I.I.

Back in 1967 Mr. Connellan managed a Waterford engineering firm. As it was just before his conversion to Keep Ireland Beautiful, he was totally unmoved by the complaints of workers suffering from the aluminium furnace which gave off noxious fumes that pervaded the whole works.

Now an official Irish monument, the aluminium blast furnace has not been interfered with in any way and still gives off its foul gases just as it did in 1967.

I trust that Matt Merrigan who is dealing with a clerical dispute in the same firm at the moment will have time to take a good sniff in the motor shop area.

Saga

The Beit saga, followed by the Donoughmore kidnapping, reminded us once again of how useless the "propaganda of the deed" can be. The net result in each case has been to increase the police force, add to the harassment of radicals and leave the police force intact.

During the week, as Miss de Burca would have it, I was idling by the fire, "looking up quotes from Lenin and Stalin" when I came across Lenin's remark on similar activities in Russia: "You can kill the Tsar, but Tzardom lives."

In practical terms, I discovered while sitting by another fire near Blessington that Sir Alfred Beit, refusing to pay security guards has demanded and got twenty-four hour police protection on a three shift system from the tiny station at Blessington. The cost to the taxpayer is about £60 per week.

ANN DEVLIN