

AN
PHOBLACHT
Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING
POLITICAL WEEKLY



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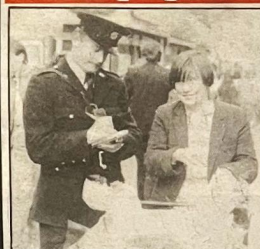
**No let-up
in prison
repression**

—See page 7



**Gas rise follows
unionist hot air**

—See page 4



**Gardai act as 'heavies'
for big stores** —page 6



**TRAVENOL
SHOCK WAVE**

—CENTRE PAGES—

PTA BRITAIN'S TERROR ACT

THE SPOTLIGHT in recent days on Britain's so-called Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA) has also exposed the usual collaboration between London and Dublin.

Not only have Free State gardai, instructed by British police, raided the homes in Ireland of people whilst they were detained in Britain, but the Coalition Minister for Foreign Affairs, Peter Barry, has been quick to leap to the defence of the British government's use of this repressive, racist legislation.

According to Barry, "the Act has been used in a much more responsible way" in the past year. His claims came after criticism from an unusual source, a Catholic hierarchy commission in Dublin concerned with emigrants to Britain.

The Dublin government was slammed by the commission secretary, Rev P. J. Byrne, for its neglect of the defence of the rights of Irish people in Britain, where 6,000 people have been detained under the PTA.

CHARGED

Less than 150 of these have been charged subsequently and the majority of these were merely trivial offences.

The detention of Irish people over Christmas, having been arrested on their way home

from a seasonal shopping/drinking spree, caught the media's attention mainly because of the scarcity of any other news stories at the time.

Thousands of other Irish people have suffered similarly with scant attention or protest, whilst thousands more are only too aware of the threat of arrest which constantly hangs over them merely because they speak with an Irish accent or bear an Irish name.

And arrest under the PTA can mean a lot more than seven days of assault, abuse and discomfort in a police cell; it can often mean the loss of a job, the impossibility of finding another one and, frequently, the necessity of moving home. Once detained under the PTA the branding remains.

It is a piece of legislation designed and used by the British to intimidate Irish people, silence their concern on the North and remind them of their second-class citizen status.

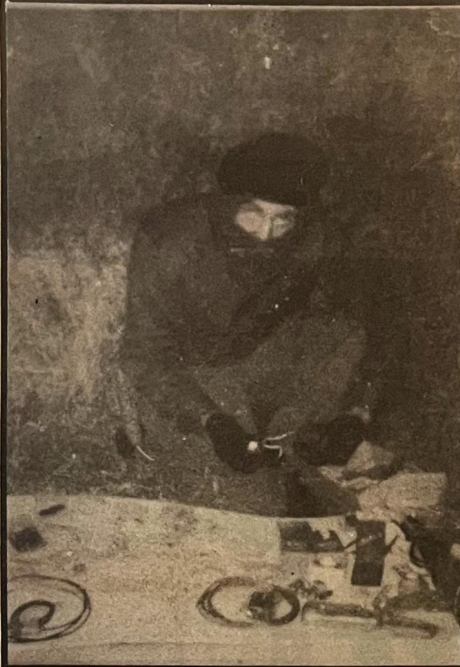
The vindictiveness with which the Act is used is illustrated by the charging, on Wednesday this week, of 65-year-old psychiatrist Dr Maire O'Shea, with conspiracy to cause explosions — seemingly to show that Britain does not give a damn for Irish concern and protests at whatever level.

However, what has been ignored by the recent publicity is that the PTA not only applies to Irish people in Britain, it also applies to Irish people in the North where it is in constant use as a weapon of terror alongside that other piece of draconian British legislation — the Emergency Provisions Act.

And not far behind is the Free State's own repressive legislation, the Offences Against the State Act, now joined by the Criminal Justice Act.

Even South Africa does not have on its statute books as powerful weapons of repression as exist in Britain and Ireland.

IRA TRAINING CAMP



• IRA Volunteers giving lectures in the preparation of explosive devices and the use of weapons at a recent training camp.



• Príosún Muinseo

Dísbeagadh agus masla

LE SEÁN DE BÚRCA

Tá Proinsias Ó Mianáin ar stailc ocrais i bPríosún Muinseo. Tá sé ag lorg aitheantas mar phríosúnach creidimh agus cultúir. Tá sé ag lorg fiosrúcháin freisin faoi reachtáil na gCúirte Dúiche i mBun Beag, Contae Dhún na nGall. Níl dabht ar bith ach gur deineadh éagóir air.

Gearradh dhá mhí i bPríosún ar Phroinsias Ó Mianáin i gcúirt i mBun Beag, i rith na seachtaine. Bhí Ó Mianáin ós comhair na cúirte ar cúiseamh gur chuir sé isteach ar an t-Athair Sweeney go mí-dhleathach ag Séipéal Cholmchille, Cnoc Fola, Contae Dhún na nGall ar dhá ócáid i mí Iúil seo caite. Bhí an cás bunaithe ar Roinn a dó d'Acht na gCúirteanna Eaglasta 1860.

Tá aithne forleathan ar Phroinsias Ó Mianáin mar fhear a sheasann lena phrionsabail agus mar fhear a sheasann go tréan leis an nGaeilge. Fear é atá sásta dul go príosún chun cearta na Gaeilge a chosaint. Deirtear go dtéann sé thar fóir ach leis an droch chaoi ina bhfuil an Ghaeilge anois, níl dabht ar bith ach go bhfuil ar Ghaeilgeoirí dul thar fóir má tá siad chun an teanga a shábháil.

GEARÁN

Bhí Ó Mianáin ag gearán toisc go raibh an sagart san aifreann ag úsáid Béarla i séipéal Gaeltachta. Dúirt an sagart i bhfianaise gur tháinig Meiriceánach chuige a dúirt "I don't feel part of the mass" agus gur chun freastal ar a leithéid a d'úsáid sé Béarla. Ar ndóigh ní chloisfeá sagart i gceantar an Bhéarla ag míniú cuid den aifreann i nGaeilge.



• PROINSIAS Ó MIANÁIN

Nuair a fhéachann duine siar ar an drochúsáid a thug na hEaglaisí don Ghaeilge ní nach ionadh gur dhein Ó Mianáin agóid. Léigh sé giotá as doiciméid de chuid Vatacáin a dó mar gheall ar an teanga a ba chóir a úsáid sa séipéal lena chás a dhéanamh.

Ní raibh Ó Mianáin i láthair sa chúirt nuair a ghearradh an dá mhí air mar bhí an giúistís i ndiaidh é a phríosú ag tús an cháis. Tháinig Proinsias isteach sa chúirt agus bear-aid ar a cheann agus a pháistí in éineacht leis. Dúirt an giúistís "Would that man take his cap off", and dhein Proinsias mar a dúir-

aigh leis. Ansin mhínigh sé don ghiúistís go raibh an lá fuar agus go raibh sé déanach agus d'iarr sé ar an giúistís Gaeilge a labhairt leis. D'fhreagair an giúistís é agus dúirt sé "I'll speak in any language I choose" agus ghearr sé seachtain príosúntachta ar Phroinsias agus tógadh ón gcúirt é.

DIAMHASLA

Thaispeán an giúistís i gcaint aisteach a thug se uaidh nach raibh aon bhá aige le hiarrachtaí Uí Mhianáin chun cearta na Gaeilge a chosaint. Dúirt sé nach raibh aon "love" ag Ó Mianáin don Ghaeilge ná don cheantar ná do phobal na háite. Diamhasla a bhí ann dar leis.

Ní hamháin sin ach lean an giúistís air agus dúirt nár sheas Ó Mianáin ach dó féin amháin agus nach raibh a fhios aige an raibh Ó Mianáin ag seasamh fiú dá chlann féin.

Ní féidir liom ó thalamh an domhain a dhéanamh amach cén fáth gur mhaslaigh sé Ó Mianáin mar gheall ar a "love" don Ghaeilge agus mar gheall ar a chlann. Cén fáth gur tharraing sé na nithe seo isteach sa chás?

SAOIRSE

Bhí cás eile ar siúl leis, ina raibh triúr ógánach, Hugh Ferry, Seamus Magee agus John McGeady ós comhair na cúirte ar chúiseamh gur ionsaigh siad Ó Mianáin, gur chiceáil siad é agus gur bhual siad le luamhán do bhoinn. Phléad-áil siad ciontach agus i ndiaidh fianaise ó gharda nach raibh Ó Mianáin gortaithe go dona tugadh saoirse dóibh faoin Acht Trofa.

Nuair a cuirtear an dá chás i gcomórtas is féidir a fheiceáil go soiléir cá seasann an giúistís.

Cháin Conradh na Gaeilge "deargbhreag an Bhreithimh. Nielan gur ag tógáil trioblóide a bhí Ó Mianáin". Chuir scaifte ó Bheal Feirste piccadáir Phríosún Mhuinseo an Chéadaoin seo caite agus beidh cruinniú leasmuigh den bPríosún ar an Satharn seo ag a haon a chlog. Tá súil le slua mór.

BY HILDA MacTHOMAS

THE SDLP is talking to the DUP without any preconditions. And what is more, the Forum report is not even on the published agenda. The talks however are not taking place in Belfast but in Warrenton, Virginia, USA, for this is the locality chosen for a three-day conference on 'Northern Ireland' to which British and Irish constitutional parties were invited.

This latest little junket has been organised by Pádraig O'Malley, a fervent admirer of Garret FitzGerald and author of the pro-establishment book *Uncivil Wars*.

The conference is sponsored by the 'Institute of Strategic Management' — a CIA front organisation which has links with MI6's 'Institute for the Study of Conflict' in London, which was secretly addressed by John Hume last year.

Apart from 60 or 70 US academics and politicians, 30 to 40 representatives from Britain and Ireland have made the trip to Warrenton. The only Irish parties not to be represented are Fianna Fáil and Sinn Féin.

BOYCOTT

Fianna Fáil leader Charles Haughey decided last week on a party boycott of the conference. Officially because of the link between the Institute of Strategic Management and British Intelligence. More probably because O'Malley had bad-mouthed him in his book. However three anti-Haughey dissidents, Seamus Brennan, Des O'Malley and Mary Harney travelled in an unofficial Fianna Fáil capacity.

As for Sinn Féin, Pádraig O'Malley was not going to jeopardise British and Free State government participation, not to mention the unionists, by inviting republicans. An invitation would have rung rather hollow anyway, given the US government's continuing refusal to grant visas to Sinn Féin spokespersons.

In an RTE interview on Sunday, January 6th, before leaving for Virginia, Hume made some principled noises about his party regarding the Forum report as "the basis for talks" with unionists.

He was pessimistic however, as there would be "no give on the unionist side", he added. A careful nudge to the voters that the SDLP was not about to 'give' either.

AGENDA

The American conference's agenda, for the record, is even more vague than the Official Unionist Party's offer of talks: being to "open avenues of communication and understanding among the participants" and "iron out ambiguities of language".

Meanwhile, the question of whether the SDLP will participate in talks at home with the unionist parties is still open. Unionist invitations to the SDLP during the festive season have still to be answered.

One full month after Thatcher's rejection of the Forum report at Chequers, and after British direct-ruler Douglas Hurd had called on unionists to talk to the SDLP, hinting that the future of Stormont depended on it, unionists finally discovered they felt 'magnanimous' and offered to talk to the SDLP.

HINTED

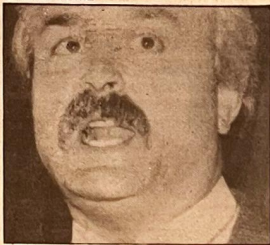
The OUP even spoke of "no precondition talks" — words later used by Bishop Cahal Daly in his New Year address. DUP leader Ian Paisley had even hinted that while the Forum report would not be on the agenda, the SDLP could come and explain its analysis of the situation, presumably identical to that of the Forum report.

But on Thursday, January 3rd, in the course of a BBC Radio programme, Hume, when challenged, refused to agree there and then on a date for talks with the leaders of the three unionist parties present in the studio. Hume unveiled some hitherto unheard of aspect of the SDLP's

TALK ABOUT TALKS ABOUT TALKS



● JOHN HUME



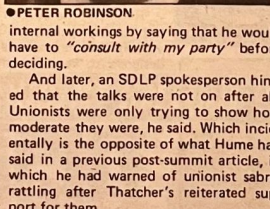
● Charles Haughey and some of the participants in the Warrenton conference



● KEN MAGINNIS



● HAROLD MCCUSKER



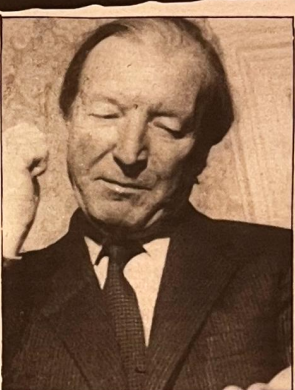
● PETER ROBINSON

internal workings by saying that he would have to "consult with my party" before deciding.

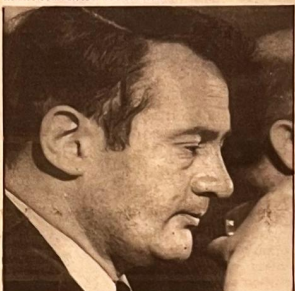
And later, an SDLP spokesperson hinted that the talks were not on after all. Unionists were only trying to show how moderate they were, he said. Which incidentally is the opposite of what Hume had said in a previous post-summit article, in which he had warned of unionist sabre-rattling after Thatcher's reiterated support for them.

CUNNING

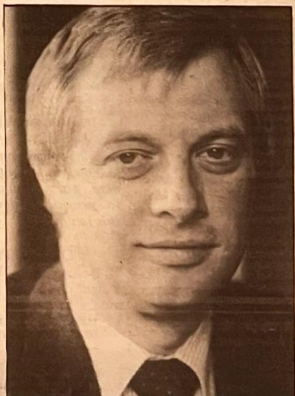
Fair enough, so the new line was that these cunning unionists were only trying to look moderate to con nationalists into an internal settlement. Which is identical



● Charles Haughey and some of the participants in the Warrenton conference



● DES O'MALLEY



● CHRIS PATTEN

to what the unionists had said of the New Ireland Forum at the time.

So who, Northern nationalists might ask, is kidding whom?

Paisley repeated his invitation in a lengthy interview with the *Sunday Tribune* on January 6th. No Irish unity, no Sunningdale-type agreement, he said — but cunningly added that he had ideas on how power might be "shared" in a six-county context.

OBSTACLES

Articles 2 and 3 of the Free State constitution were obstacles to closer links with Dublin, said he confidently, a true exponent of unionist 'logic'.

And meanwhile, the SDLP were wel-



● MARY HARNEY



● SEAMUS BRENNAN



● MICHAEL NOONAN

come to present to the DUP the Forum's analysis as being theirs. Not that the DUP would agree with any of it of course. And, Paisley added pointedly, could the SDLP deliver on a "deal" anyway?

So, by the look of it, the unionists are enjoying themselves with the SDLP, cat-and-mouse fashion. Safely ensconced in their sectarian enclave, they are playing the game arranged for them by the constitutional nationalists.

GAME

Name of the game: 'unity by consent'. The unionists' move: no consent.

End of the game.

Meanwhile, concerned rumblings could be heard from sections of the British and Irish establishments. Last week, the British magazine *The Economist* warned that by her rejection of FitzGerald, Thatcher was giving the IRA's argument "a certain frightful credibility".

And FitzGerald himself, courtesy of the German magazine *Der Spiegel*, let it be known to all in Ireland that a "solution must be found" before "two or three years" had elapsed.

COMMUNIQUE

All was not lost however, he said, adding a further interpretation of the famous Chequers communique, which seemingly proves that the British are prepared to consider other options than the Forum's three, and do all sorts of wonderful things on issues like the RUC and the courts.

Meanwhile, the prospects for the SDLP are grim. Condemned to be nothing more than the Northern branch of the Free State establishment, it has become completely dependent for credibility on the will of the Dublin government to bare their teeth to the Brits.

Given Peter Barry's recent reluctance to protest about the PTA arrests, the SDLP must be waiting for the next summit with trepidation.

Gas rise follows unionist hot air

BY ROBERT CARLIN

GAS CONSUMERS in the Belfast area have been saddled with an 8½% rise in charges from the middle of the month. The city council gas committee voted by six votes to five in favour of the rise at a meeting on January 3rd.

The city council had been informed by the Department of Economic Development

that unless they approved an 8½% increase then their subsidy would be withdrawn. In the last financial year this has amounted to £9.3m.

Sammy Wilson of the DUP had originally tabled a motion proposing a rejection of the rise. When this was seconded by

Sinn Féin's Alex Maskey, however, Wilson denied having proposed any motion. Official Unionist Billy Bell, chairman of the committee, then accepted a motion from Alliance's Michael Brown, proposing that the price rise should be reluctantly agreed to.

The SDLP split on the vote, with Mary Muldoon against Brown's motion, and Paschal O'Hare 'reluctantly' for it.

The prospect of running the industry without any government assistance frightened the committee into bowing to the threat. This would mean, in effect, the council having to raise a total of £20m to pay for the accumulated overdraft and also annual running costs of £10m.

The council does not have the power to raise the amount of money required by upping the rates — a rise which would probably have to be somewhere around 80%. The government would then appoint a commissioner to run the council.

A working party has been set up which has already discussed the mechanics of a close down as well as a scaled-down version of the cross-border Kinsale gas supply.

ACCUSED

Sinn Féin Councillor Alex Maskey has stated that the benefits of any rise in gas prices would be offset by a loss of customer demand. And he accused Sammy Wilson of putting party politics before the working-class people of Belfast. Commenting on Wilson's refusal to answer his question on whether he had actually proposed a motion, Maskey said:

"The words stuck in his throat because it was obvious he was all against price increases and giving in to government blackmail until I seconded his stand, and then, rather than be seen to be on the same side as a Sinn Féin man, he chickened out and let his people down."

The price increase is expected to be ratified at the next full council meeting on January 17th.



● Terence Mangan in the new site at Downpatrick; (inset) Market Street car-park from where the travellers were evicted

Travellers' plight

BY JANE PLUNKETT

THE HOUSING EXECUTIVE in Dungannon has been accused of discrimination because of their failure, over a seven-year period, to house a local traveller family living in appalling conditions.

Rose and John McDonagh live with their ten children, aged from 13 to one year, in a small one-room caravan beside the Ballygawley Road. The site has neither toilet nor washing facilities, and each morning John McDonagh faces a five-mile round trip to collect water from a roadside tap before the seven eldest children can be prepared for school.

In winter, water stored in the bitterly cold caravan frequently freezes overnight. The children, according to Rose McDonagh, suffer continually with flu and kidney ailments, which their doctor blames on their living conditions.

The seven eldest children, boys and girls, sleep in a tiny trailer close by, a necessity which particularly concerns their mother.

BETTER LIFE

Determined to make a better life for their children among the 'settled community', John and Rose McDonagh have been on the

Executive's local waiting list for the past seven years. Despite having a massive 135 points (nearly double the requirement locally) and the support of their GP, they have never been offered a home, even when suitable houses have become vacant.

According to John McDonagh, who was born in the area and has spent most of his life in Dungannon:

"Every time we go to the Executive they say there isn't a house available, that they will let us know. They have denied it but I can't see it being anything else but discrimination."

The family's case has been taken up by Sinn Féin locally, whose spokesperson Francie Molloy called for the McDonaghs to be rehoused without delay. Molloy pointed out:

"The Housing Executive's callous lack of concern for the McDonaghs is exposed by the fact that literally dozens of Executive houses are lying empty in Dun-

gannon. Less than 50 yards from their caravan, for example, a five-bedroom bungalow is unoccupied which could be renovated to provide a decent home for this family."

DOWNPATRICK

Downpatrick Sinn Féin has called on Down council to provide a permanent site for a group of travelling people now camped

on an industrial estate in the Model Farm area of Downpatrick.

The travellers have been on the site for three weeks, after having been moved from their former site, the Market Street car park in Downpatrick, when the RUC and British army arrived in force to eject them. The frightened group agreed to move to their present site, but when they arrived there they found the entrance had been blocked by a number of large boulders. Two of these had to be moved before they could enter.

Recently, the council has erected fencing around the car park, at considerable expense. This is designed to keep out all vehicles except cars and thus prevent the travellers returning. But they also incurred the wrath of local farmers who have since found that they are unable to enter the car park with trailers on market day.

A spokesperson for the travellers, Terence Mangan, said:

"A lot of RUC and British army came to the car park armed with guns and riot shields and told us if we didn't move from the car park then they were going to tow us out. But we're not moving from this site for them this time."

No facilities have been provided

at the site and the travellers are being forced to collect water by car from various points around the town.

ALLEVIATE

Sinn Féin spokesperson Ally Mathers has called on Down council to help alleviate the distress of the travellers:

"A permanent site should be provided for all travellers in the area. Meantime, washing facilities and a skip should be provided here. This should be done by Down council as soon as possible. We're also calling on all councillors to back this proposal. 'The travellers in Downpatrick have encountered no hostility from the local people. They just want a chance to live their lives as best they can.'"

The plight of travelling people throughout the six counties was brought sharply into focus on Monday when eight-year-old Winifred McDonagh died in a fire on a travellers' site in West Belfast. The travellers have been forced to find heat as best they can as the weather gets colder, sometimes in a less than safe manner.

Councils in the six counties have repeatedly dragged their feet on the issue of providing permanent facilities for travelling people.

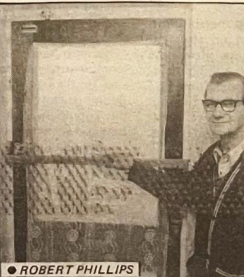
REPAIRS NEGLECTED

A DOWNPATRICK family of four have been ignored by the Housing Executive despite repeated attempts by Downpatrick Sinn Féin to have repairs to their home carried out.

Mr and Mrs Phillips and their two teenage children were assigned the house at 66 Pegasus Walk in the Flying Horse estate and moved there on November 26th. They found that they had no locks on the doors and windows. The front door has to be secured by a wooden bar hammered across it from the inside, denying them access to the house from the front. They also found they had no cup-

boards or work-tops in the kitchen. Nor were there any drainage pipes, drain covers, washing lines or even a bin.

The family have been told that the work had been put out on contract three weeks ago, but since then no repairs have been undertaken. Downpatrick Sinn Féin has condemned the Housing Executive's inactivity and has called on them to carry out repairs immediately.



● ROBERT PHILLIPS

SINISTER BRIBE ATTEMPT FAILS

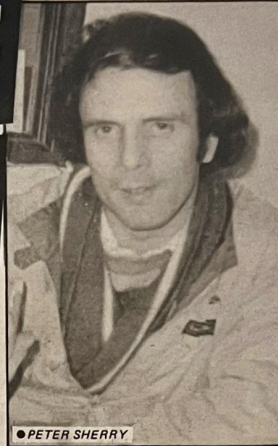
BY JANE PLUNKETT

A 26-YEAR-OLD Dungannon man has revealed that RUC Special Branch personnel offered him over £10,000 last month to plant weapons on local Sinn Féin activist Peter Sherry, who stood as the party's candidate in a Dungannon council by-election last March.

An additional sinister aspect of the incident is that several weeks earlier Sherry had been named in the House of Commons

by OUP MP Ken Maginnis. Cynically using parliamentary 'privilege' to shelter against legal redress, the ex-UDR major claimed that Sherry had had prior knowledge of IRA activities, an entirely unsubstantiated allegation intended to bolster yet another hackneyed call by Maginnis for a ban on Sinn Féin.

The apparently preplanned RUC bribe attempt began when the man was arrested from his home under Section 12 of the PTA and taken to Gough Barracks. During six days of intensive interrogation, two teams of Special Branchmen, among whom was one named McIntosh, repeatedly told



● PETER SHERRY

him to contact Sherry and persuade him to help in moving a weapon or weapons, which the RUC said they would supply.

According to the Special Branch plan, the man was to take the guns 'from A to

B' and arrange for Sherry to collect them. The RUC said that they would 'look after' Sherry from there.

COVER

The man told AP/RN: "They said they would let me go and others would be lifted as a cover, so that I could still work for them. That would be the first job."

He was offered £10,000 plus a monthly retainer by the RUC, who threatened that he would be framed himself and imprisoned unless he accepted their 'offer'.

One of his Special Branch interrogators stated that they would get authorisation for the deal "in hours", with "no problem".

Sensibly, the man remained silent, ignoring their intimidation, and immediately on his release contacted Sinn Féin and a solicitor.

This incident has been denounced by Owen Carron, Sinn Féin elected representative for Fermanagh/South Tyrone, as "yet another example of the RUC's tactics of blackmail, coercion and bribery" against nationalists.

Carron stressed:

"Anyone who is being blackmailed by the RUC should immediately contact a solicitor or Sinn Féin so as to put an end to their oppressive situation."

BY LEO AGNEW

AROUND 6am on Monday, January 7th, a large Brit/RUC force raided houses in Strabane's Head of the Town area and the Ballycolman estate, remaining there until 3pm that afternoon. They also conducted several smaller searches on the outskirts of the town.

Sinn Féin workers counted over 30 landrovers in the Head of the Town and believe a similar number were involved in raiding the Ballycolman estate. In all, around 18 nationalist homes were raided.

In most cases, searches were conducted by Brits, between six and ten of whom entered each house. Almost all of those whose homes were raided were held in one room, with one RUC man on guard to prevent movement or observation of the Brits rummaging through personal possessions.

A few people successfully challenged this illegal 'room arrest' procedure and were allowed to accompany the Brit raiding party. Others managed to send their children off to school despite RUC pressure.

ARRESTED

Of the five people arrested, one was a member of the local Molloy/Devlin Sinn Féin cumann. Jarlath McNulty (20) was arrested after his home had already been raided, while he was going round the area examining the damage caused to other homes and advising local people of their rights.

Other Sinn Féin members were refused permission to speak to neighbours whose homes were being raided, were refused entry to their own homes and were harassed and threatened with arrest by the RUC.

Mass raids in Strabane



● A member of the Molloy/Devlin Sinn Féin cumann, indicates the damage caused to the ceiling in the Farrell home

Strabane Sinn Féin believes the raids and subsequent arrests were an attempt to intimidate the nationalist people of the area (many of those arrested had no apparent republican connections) and to gather information on local republican activists.

ALLEGATION

They also believe there is no truth in an RUC claim that ammunition was found and see this allegation as an attempt to divert attention away from these facts and from an incident in which an

elderly man suffered a heart attack while his house was being raided and his son arrested.

Several of the homes raided belonged to local Sinn Féin members and many Sinn Féin documents, including election maps and registers, were seized. Green Cross receipts were among documents confiscated. Still more were examined and copies made.

The home of the driver of the prisoners' welfare minibus, Paddy Gilloway, was raided by six Brits and one RUC man. Paddy, his



● PADDY GILLOWAY

wife Mary and their six children were held under room arrest during the raid, which lasted from 7.15am to 12.30pm.

SECTARIAN

Paddy Gilloway described the attitude of the RUC man, who during the raid repeated an earlier death threat against Gilloway, as "aggressive and sectarian".

During the raid, panels in the bathroom were damaged and the keys of the minibus, as well as a receipt book, were taken.

Some of the worst damage caused during the raids was to the home of James and Patricia Farrell. A raiding party entered their home at 6.55am, pushing past Mr Farrell and rushing through the house without allowing him any

opportunity to wake his family.

DAMAGED

Although subjected to room arrest, the Farrells did eventually manage to get their four children off to school. During the three-hour raid, ceilings in two bedrooms were damaged (a hole two feet wide being dug in one), floorboards were prised up and bootmarks were left decorating walls.

Letters from Portlaoise POW Danny McCauley were taken and read by the Brits. The Farrells subsequently found an empty film case in one of the rooms and believe that photographs of the inside of their home were taken without their permission by the Brits.

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EXPOSURE FOR GARDA TACTICS

BY JACK MADDEN

THE 'Kerry Babies' tribunal of inquiry opened in Tralee court on Monday this week.



● JOANNE HAYES

The inquiry, which is being heard before Judge Kevin Lynch and is in public, is investigating the circumstances in which several members of the Hayes family admitted responsibility for, and were subsequently charged with, the killing of a new-born baby found dead on a Kerry beach on April 14th last year.

The inquiry will also examine why these charges were dropped and the claims made by the Hayes family that they were beaten, intimidated and abused by gardai into admitting involvement in an offence they had taken no part in.

Besides members of the Hayes family, who have widespread support from their friends and neighbours in Abbeydorney, the tribunal will examine the role of about 30 gardai from Tralee and Dublin, who were involved in the detention and interrogation of the Hayes family in Tralee garda station.

Amongst the gardai who will appear is Detective Chief Superintendent John Courtney of the

'Murder Squad' whose name has featured in previous allegations against the gardai, in the days of the 'Heavy Gang'.

DIFFERENCES

At its opening, the inquiry was told that there are sharp differences in the version of events as told by the Hayes family and the account of events as related by the gardai.

During the first three days of the hearing, the main concentration has been on the sexual relationships and pregnancies of Joanne Hayes, the central figure in the inquiry.

It was against her that a charge of murder was preferred and then withdrawn.

Among the bizarre details revealed in the inquiry so far was Joanne Hayes' account of her interrogation by Detective Garda P.J. Browne who, she claims, hit her on the face, verbally abused her and then placed her sitting on his lap while a 'confession' was being prepared.



● A garda harassing street-traders in Dublin city centre

BY BRENDAN KERR

DUBLIN street-traders gave full vent to their anger at a meeting in Summerhill on Wednesday night, January 9th, to protest against a massive increase in garda harassment.

Over 50 street-traders, together with Sinn Féin community activist Christy Burke, Leinster House deputy Tony Gregory, solicitor Cathal O'Donovan and Joe Costello of the Prisoners Rights Organisation were present in Rutland Street School to discuss ways of fighting the gardai's use of laws which empower them to seize traders' goods and then impose a charge for their return.

These laws had previously lain dormant on the statute books for four years.

Garda Superintendent Curran, of Store Street, vainly tried to deflect the barrage of criticism from the floor but convinced no-one present that trying to earn a living is a crime.

PUNITIVE

The resurrection of the legislation is due to pressure from members of the City Centre Businesses Association (CCBA), who had threatened to withhold their rates if these punitive measures weren't taken against 'illegal' street-traders.

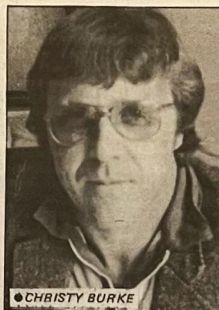
The businesses association, which represents firms such as Dunes, Arnotts and Roches Stores, has shown itself to be plain bloody-minded when it comes to street-traders.

Dublin Corporation are presently fighting a High Court battle with the businesses association over the provision of a few 'pitches' in the city centre.

May Hutch, who has been a street-trader for 52 years, just as her grandmother was before her, told AP/RN:

"We don't want to have to operate illegally but it's forced upon us. I was promised a Cor-

Gardai act as ' heavies' for big stores



● CHRISTY BURKE

poration pitch 26 years ago — I'm still waiting!"

Sinn Féin's Christy Burke commented:

"The gardai's hounding of street-traders is being carried

out at the instigation of the City Centre Businesses Association, which represents people such as millionaire Ben Dunne — people who hardly have to worry where the money is going to come from to feed and clothe their families.

"Once again, working-class people's livelihoods — and a Dublin tradition — are being threatened by the interests of big business.

"The right of Dublin's street-traders to earn a living must be defended."

BOYCOTT

There will be another meeting of street-traders and their families next week, where a boycott of Dunes, Arnotts, Roches and other stores will be further considered if the CCBA remains intransigent.

CONCERNED PARENTS CLEARED

PAUL CAREY, whose father Patrick died from a heart attack on December 29th 1984, has publicly stated:

"The death of my father and the visit to our home by members of the Concerned Parents group were totally separate incidents."

The death of 57-year-old Patrick Carey happened after a family row, over an hour after the visit to the Carey's flat by members of the Concerned Parents' committee after a meeting on Tuesday, January 8th. The statement said:

"We view the arrest and charging of five members of the Concerned Parents following the death of Patrick Carey from a heart attack on December 29th 1984 to be nothing more than a frame-up."

They challenged the Minister for Justice, Michael Noonan, to resign "not only for his complicity in the attacks on the Concerned Parents but also because of his total ineffectiveness in fighting the drugs menace still threatening our communities."

Paul Carey will attend the next meeting of the Saint Theresa Gardens CPAD committee at 8pm on Monday, January 14th, in Donore Avenue Community Centre.



No let-up in prison repression

BY JANE PLUNKETT

THE END of a second year of strip-searching and the end of 1984 saw strip-searching continuing unabated in Armagh Prison, despite continuing and mounting pressure on the British government to end this inhumane practice.

According to statistics compiled by the women republican prisoners, during December a total of 40 strip-searches were carried out in Armagh.

This compared with a total prison population of only 28 (26 republicans and two non-political prisoners) indicating that, as in previous months, a number of women were subjected to repeated strip-searching.

In a communication from the jail this week, the women republican prisoners drew attention to the psychological effects of strip-searching which, they warned, "should not be underestimated".

EPILEPTIC

They gave details of an incident on St Stephen's Day, December 26th, when a 19-year-old 'young offender' suffered an epileptic fit while being strip-searched and had to be attended in the search area of the jail by a prison doctor.

In their statement, the women in Armagh again called on all concerned groups to intensify political pressure on the British government to abandon their strip-search policy.

Last Friday, 24 Catholic priests from dioceses in the six counties petitioned Pope John Paul to condemn strip-searching in Armagh.

APPEAL

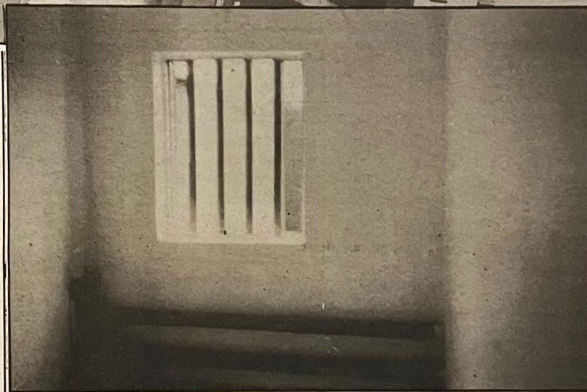
In their appeal, which was forwarded through the papal nuncio in Dublin, the priests said they were "deeply concerned" about what they described as the "immoral, inhuman and degrading aspects of strip-searches".

Their campaign was launched at a meeting in Benburb early last December. The campaign's organisers, who include Fr Joseph McVeigh of Irvinestown, Fr Raymond Murray of Armagh, and Fr Des Wilson of Belfast, hope to gain support from priests and bishops both in Ireland and abroad.

RENEWING

Throughout Ireland, Stop the Strip-Searches committees are renewing their campaigning after the Christmas break.

In Dungannon next Sunday, January



13th, a seminar and video-showing on the issue, which will be addressed by a former prisoner, will take place in St Patrick's Hall at 3pm.

The Fermanagh action groups of the Stop the Armagh Strip-Searches Campaign organised a series of meetings around the county during the week before Christmas. Over 100 people attended a meeting in the Celtic Hotel, Enniskillen, on Friday, December 12th, where the strip-search video was shown.

VIDEO

The video was shown at three venues during the weekend of December 13th and 14th, in Derrylin, Kinawley and Roslea. The UDR surrounded the house in Derrylin where the video was shown and the RUC were in attendance outside the Derrygannon Hall in Roslea to harass people coming out of the meeting.

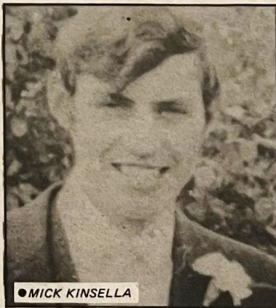
Leaflets were distributed around a wide area of the county, including Enniskillen and Swanlinbar, on Thursday, December 20th.

Fr Joe McVeigh, one of the group of Catholic priests which has protested against strip-searching, spoke at the meeting in Bellaghy, County Derry, on Tuesday, January 8th. An action group is being formed in the area.

REPORT

An 18-page report on the conditions in Portlaoise Prison, compiled by the prisoners' themselves, was sent to the Whittaker Committee on Prisons in early November, and no reply has yet been received. The report covered all aspects of the regime in Portlaoise with particular

● (Above) A photograph secretly taken inside Maghaberry Prison, County Antrim; and (top picture) an aerial view of the prison



● MICK KINSELLA

reference to the main grievances, visiting conditions and beatings.

A booklet is being issued at the end of January by the Portlaoise Prisoners Relatives Action Committee. It will cover visiting conditions, report on special cases of hardship in the prison, the 'lifers' and strip-searching. Among the special cases detailed in the booklet is the plight of Mick Kinsella, who is suffering from a severe mental breakdown. Mick Kinsella was sent to Dundrum Mental Hospital before Christmas for treatment but will no doubt be shortly returned to the prison.

STATEMENT

A statement to the press was released on January 1st by the PPRAC saying that

they "viewed with cynicism the claim by P. J. McEvoy of the Prison Officers Association that 60 prisoners from Mountjoy who were granted parole have not returned and his apparent concern over the matter".

They point out that parole is refused to prisoners in Portlaoise even in cases of extreme family illness or death, and accuse the Department of Justice of applying double standards.

They stress that "while we do not begrudge prisoners in Mountjoy any parole they may receive, we feel that it is totally unjustified that Portlaoise prisoners are selectively being denied parole and this despite the fact that no republican prisoner from there has ever violated his parole".

ESCAPEES

The pre-trial hearing began in Crumlin Road Courthouse this week against 19 republican escapees recaptured after the mass IRA breakout from Long Kesh in September 1983.

The defendants face multiple charges (all have been vindictively charged with the killing of a prison warden) and the preliminary hearing is expected to last for several weeks.

Meanwhile, the British government has announced that Maghaberry Prison, near Lisburn, will be open for business in December of this year.

COY

So far an expensive embarrassment, the new prison is five years behind schedule and the Brits are being extremely coy about its final cost.

The new jail will probably mean the end of the Long Kesh cages (though the Brits are denying that it will also mean the end of special category status) and will certainly mean the transfer of women republican prisoners from Armagh Jail.

In its design, the Brits have incorporated all the lessons learnt during many years of prison repression in the six counties, and Maghaberry will undoubtedly be the most top-security prison in Western Europe.

LONG LARTIN

About 40 people took part in a picket of Long Lartin Prison in Worcestershire in support of Irish political prisoners in English jails. The protest was called by the Irish Republican POWs Committee in Britain. There are eight republican prisoners in the jail.

Attack on pay as job losses rise



● Dole queues getting longer

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

UNEMPLOYMENT in the twenty-six counties rose by nearly 9,000 in December, bringing the total to 225,455 registered unemployed. This amounts to 17% of the workforce. In the six counties, the figure now stands at 119,400 or 20% of workers. These are official figures which considerably understate the true situation.

Unemployment rose by 18,400 in the thirty-two counties during 1984.

In spite of severe cutbacks in public services in the South, mainly in the areas of health and education, the proportion of total income going in tax increased in 1984. PAYE workers paid a massive 85% of the £1,966 million collected in income tax in 1984.

The Coalition government's attempts to impose real wage cuts in the public service area have been weakened in recent days by Labour Court recommendations for pay awards in the public sector. In particular, leaks on Wednesday, January 9th, suggested that the Labour Court has again breached the Coalition's guideline by recommending a 6% increase for civil servants. This takes the form of a seven-month pay pause followed by a 3% rise from January 1st 1985 and a further 3% from June 1st 1985, breaking the guideline but still remaining below the rate of inflation.

Other recent recommendations by the Labour Court which are in excess of the Coalition's stated pay-rise ceiling are 7½% for the striking Central Bank workers, 6½% over 15 months, with a three-month pay pause, for clerical staff at the Agricultural Credit Corporation and a 7% award made up of a pay rise plus a 'package' of fringe benefits for Aer Lingus/Aer Rianta workers. Recommended awards to Bord na Mona workers and those at Nitriglin Eireann, of 8½% and 7%, are also above the 3% 'ceiling'.

John Carroll, president of the ICTU has warned that confrontation with the Coalition over pay rises is inevitable and says that the 3% limit is unacceptable particularly in the light of

the recent 'arrangements' made for members of the judiciary which made a mockery of the Free State government's so-called concern for workers.

Workers at the Central Bank are still on strike after six weeks, with the Board of the Central Bank offering them an immediate 4½% to return to work. The workers are to seek support from other bank workers, asking them to refuse to work on any Coalition government accounts. The striking workers voted to accept the Labour Court's recommended 7½%.

The sit-in by 12 protesting workers is continuing at the Atari video games factory in Limerick. The 270 workers were told that the plant would close at the end of January, an announcement that came with no prior warning on December 20th.

Six workers initially occupied the premises on Saturday, December 22nd. Atari is American-owned and has been severely criticised by unions for its treatment of the 270 workers who will lose their jobs, and for not making any attempt to keep the plant open.

The strike by Bord na Mona workers at its Littleton factory in Tipperary is now in its ninth week. The dispute is over compulsory redundancies at the peat briquette factory.

A strike by CIE busworkers will start on Monday, January 28th, after a ballot of NBU members showed a majority in favour of strike action.

The Labour Court recommendation of a 4% pay rise for CIE workers has been rejected by the CIE unions. This increase is the lowest award made by the Labour Court to a semi-state body. Provincial train services and the Dublin DART trains will also be affected.

A bus strike is also likely in Galway, because of a dispute over revised bus schedules. Busworkers say that the overall services will be curtailed resulting in a loss of overtime. The

new service is to take effect from Monday, January 14th.

The chairperson of the Galway branch of the NBU says that loss of overtime will hit busworkers badly, as their basic rate of pay is only £114 a week, and points out that the cutbacks will also cause hardship to the public.

An injunction was granted by the High Court to stop picketing at Brown Thomas department store in Dublin on Tuesday, December 18th.

Workers in the store were protesting at the refusal of management to grant leave in lieu of late-night working over Christmas. The workers defied the court order and again picketed on December 19th.

Street-cleaners and refuse-collectors in Dublin city are on strike in protest at the transfer of a worker to another Corporation area for 'disciplinary reasons'.

The strike is now three weeks old.

The strike at Dunnes Stores, Henry Street, Dublin, over the suspension of a union member for refusing to handle South African goods, enters its 26th week.

Tommy Davis, one of the 13 strikers, told AP/RN:

"It was tough being out on strike over Christmas — we only get £21 strike pay a week — and maybe Dunnes thought that would break us. Well it didn't, and we're more determined than ever to stick it out. "Dunnes management should reopen negotiations to try and break the deadlock."

Mass pickets are held outside the store every Saturday from 2pm to 6pm.

Half the workforce at Spiralux Ltd in Skibbereen, County Cork, have been made redundant. Eighty of the workers, who are mainly women, were made redundant in December.

Some of the 65 workers who have lost their jobs with RUCON, the roofing contractors in Cork, have been with the firm for 25 years.

The company is to close at the end of January.

A liquidator has been appointed to Garryquinn Motors Ltd in Navan, County Meath. Fourteen workers will be made redundant at the Austin Rover dealers.

A liquidator has been appointed to the Walkinstown, Dublin, firm of Multifast Ltd. Ten workers will lose their jobs in the company which distributed industrial tools and fittings.

The collapse of Irish Shipping has meant the loss of pensions for 11 of Irish Shipping's 45 pensioners. The others will have their pension drastically reduced. Among them is Captain Thomas Glanville, the master of the *Irish Oak* which was torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine in 1943, his pension is cut from £268 per month to £40 per month.

A massive cover-up has been alleged concerning the liquidation of Irish Shipping, with the revelation on Tuesday, January 8th, that officials of the Free State Departments of Communications and Fisheries, members of the board of Irish Shipping and the liquidator, Maurice Tempany have all refused to give requested information to the Leinster House committee on semi-state companies.

LAST WEEK'S announcement that Travenol Laboratories factory in County Mayo and le Free State's Industrial Development Authority (IDA) for its policy companies to establish

Travenol, which produces in Castlebar and S the most stable of the m tainly, the IDA once view of its industrial development

So highly was Travenol re ded that in successive years was one of the top ten beneficiaries of the IDA grants. This was especially true in 1978 and 1979 when Travenol was given more than 22½ million of taxpayers' money in IDA grants.

Travenol Laboratories in tlebar is a subsidiary of the ter-Travenol Corporation with base in Chicago, USA. In 1978, Baxter-Travenol decided to establish a factory in Ireland, because of sentimentalism, because of the scenery, but cause Ireland was fast becoming a springboard to the European market.

The promise of generous subsidies, particularly in the disadvantaged Western region, undoubtedly a further incentive to the multinational in choosing the location of the factory.

DISCOURAGE

Like other multinational companies, Travenol did its best to discourage its Castlebar workers from joining a trade union. Their 'discouragement' programme was unsuccessful, however, and mainly young workforce became members of the ITGWU.

Then, in order to stabilise its workforce, which has recruited from a wide area of County Mayo, Travenol of to assist its earliest employees looking for loans from housing societies — but only if employee was getting married.

TRAVENOL SHOCK WAVE

announcement that the Travenol factory in Castlebar is to close, with its closure has sent shock waves through the community and led to renewed attacks on the Industrial Development Authority (IDA) for encouraging multinational companies to establish subsidiaries in Ireland.

The company produces medical equipment at facilities in Swinford, was regarded as one of the multinational firms in Ireland. It was viewed as the "jewel in the crown" of the IDA's export programme in the West.

BY JACK MADDEN

As the Castlebar factory proved successful, Travenol opened two further plants, one in Belmullet and the other one at Swinford. There were, in fact, plans to open a further factory in Tuam, County Galway, but these plans did not materialise.

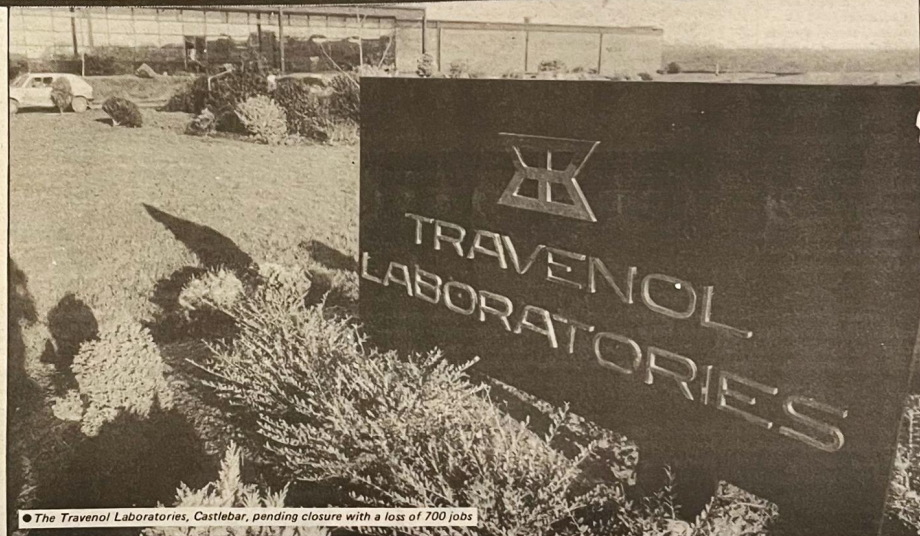
By 1981, however, the bubble had begun to burst. The Belmullet factory was the first to suffer when, in March that year, it was announced that 100 workers would be laid off. By October the company had decided to close the Belmullet factory. More than 200 jobs were gone.

And in December 1983, the Castlebar factory began to suffer and for the next twelve months voluntary redundancies were demanded and received. Again, over 200 jobs were lost.

CLOSURE

While workers might have expected further lay-offs, they were not prepared for the sudden announcement of total closure. Nor, indeed, was the Irish management made aware of what was happening until very recently. In recent weeks they have been buying and installing a new and costly computerised security system in the Castlebar factory.

As in most multinationals, the Irish management dealt only with the day-to-day running of the plant. Wider policy decisions were made in America and



● The Travenol Laboratories, Castlebar, pending closure with a loss of 700 jobs

passed to the company's general manager, who was always an American.

Following the closure announcement, Travenol general manager Ned Kevitt admitted that the Castlebar factory was still making a profit, but those profits were negligible by the standards of the multinational corporation.

A further excuse, that there was no longer a sufficient demand for the products manufactured at Castlebar, has been discounted by workers in the factory who point out that production lines which have been phased out in the past were simply transferred to factories in England, France and Spain which are also subsidiaries of Baxter-Travenol.

Castlebar workers are convinced that the company is developing its two Spanish factories at their expense. Interestingly,

Spain is on the verge of entry to the EEC, just as Ireland was in 1972.

GROVELLING

Both the Coalition Industry Minister, John Bruton, and the IDA were alerted that the Castlebar factory was to be closed, but all of their grovelling before senior executives of the multinational changed nothing.

Rather than try to recoup its losses at this stage, the IDA has done all in its power to facilitate the pull-out by Travenol. First, they agreed to accept a £3 million repayment of grants even though the £3½ million given to Travenol by the IDA in the late 1970s is worth considerably more in today's terms.

Next, IDA Managing Director Padraic White warned workers not to resist the closure because that would damage the prospect of getting a replacement indus-

try for the plant. He said:

"If in the next two days anything goes wrong, like a sit-in, it would be disastrous. What replacement industry would go near a workforce like that?"

Such veiled threats to the workers that unless they were 'reasonable' they would have no hope of new employment, were repeated by the Fine Gael deputy for the area, Enda Kenny, who jetted off to Chicago to talk to the company bosses.

REACTION

Indeed, the reaction of officialdom to the closure was reminiscent of the reaction to the collapse of Ford and Dunlop in Cork in recent years.

But behind the talk of 'task forces' and top-level meetings and assurances from the IDA that "Travenol are still committed to Ireland", the reality is that the industrial expansion

programme based on foreign multinationals has been a costly and monumental flop.

The IDA has pampered these multinational concerns, not only financially but also by trying to create a docile and non-union workforce in Ireland — because the multinational likes to own its workers, and thrives on a dog-eat-dog environment.

In its wake, Baxter-Travenol has left one factory with an uncertain future in Swinford. Elsewhere, it has threatened economic hardship to thousands of Mayo people, not only those directly employed in Castlebar but all those people who work in manufacturing or service industries which had contracts with Travenol.

As with other multinationals, they have shown that their 'commitment' is neither to Ireland nor the Irish people but to profit with a capital P.

Plain speaking in Monaghan

BY TONY McKENNA

SINN FEIN PRESIDENT Gerry Adams MP delivered the fourth annual Fergal O'Hanlon memorial lecture on New Year's Day in Monaghan town.

Over 200 people packed into the small function room of the Swan Lake Hotel to hear Adams give his views of the developing republican struggle over the years and its prospects in the future.

Introduced by Monaghan Sinn Fein chairperson and county organiser Brendan McKenna, Adams commenced his talk with an assessment of the republican struggle since 1798 and the influences of the French revolution on Tone and his contemporaries.

Developing his arguments through to 1916, he described the Rising of that year as a "coming together of the various strands of Irish national opinion of that time," going on to declare that "those collective ideas and values were enshrined in the declaration of the republic — the Proclamation of 1916".

VIBRANT

Describing republicanism as a vibrant, living political philosophy, he stated that republicans must learn from the mistakes of the past in order to ensure the successes of the future.

"There are three threads of nationalist opinion of how best to succeed in our efforts to achieve real freedom for the people of Ireland. The first is the physical force thread, which is militarist in outlook only. The second is the almost constitutional thread which ignores force and tends to compromise.

"The only way forward for us as a people is the revolutionary thread and it is this all-encompassing force that the Republican Movement has adopted as its means to succeed.

"This demands of us the recognition that because of a lack of resources, such as weaponry and fire-power, the Irish Republican

Army is and is likely to remain incapable of defeating the British military presence in Ireland, in what is commonly termed as 'conventional warfare'.

"But the Irish people as a whole, engaging in revolutionary activity in all its collective forms, can and will defeat the might of Britain, her force and interests in Ireland."

Outlining the realities of the state of the Republican Movement towards the end of the 1960s, he pointed out that in 1970 thousands of people became "absorbed into the Republican Movement rather than educated in the republican philosophy".

EDUCATION

"The process of education within our movement and the importance of concerted political opposition to the forces aligned against the interests of our people — there are two of the principal areas of work for us in the year ahead and we must all recognise the need to emphasise their relevance and direct application at all levels within Sinn Fein.

"We are not going to free Ireland. We can only create the conditions whereby the Irish people will free themselves."

Concluding with a direct challenge to the Free State parties, who regularly claim to speak on behalf of the nationalist people of the six counties, to test the validity of their claim at the ballot-box, Adams once again attacked the betrayal of the republic by the successors to the counter-revolutionaries of the 1920s, Fianna Fail and Fine Gael.

"Nowhere is that betrayal more in evidence than right here in Monaghan itself. The oppression of republican activists, the harassment of republican supporters, the overt collaboration on



● The funeral of Vol Fergal O'Hanlon in 1957

the border with the forces of occupation and oppression in the six counties: these are the people that Liam Mellows referred to during the Treaty debate — men who would do anything to stay in power.

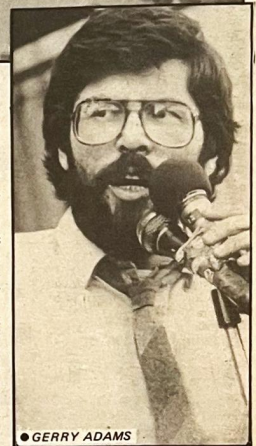
"A growing realisation of this betrayal is evident among those who have taken the time to analyse what is wrong within Free State society and why the guarantees enshrined in the Proclamation of 1916, to cherish all the children of the nation equally, have been so obviously cast aside. The Free State bubble will shortly burst."

Adams received an enthusiastic standing ovation from his audience, a short question-and-answer session followed with some interesting contributions from the floor.

Earlier that afternoon a short graveside ceremony took place at Latlurcan Cemetery, at the grave of Vol Fergal O'Hanlon whose 28th anniversary occurred on that day.

Sinn Fein national organiser and cousin of Vol O'Hanlon, Caoimhghin O Caolain, presided. A wreath was laid on the grave by Sinn Fein president Gerry Adams and a decade of the rosary in Irish was recited by Brendan McKenna, chairperson of O'Hanlon/McMahon Sinn Fein cumann, Monaghan.

This was followed by a short oration by Vincent Conlon of Monaghan Sinn Fein, who was a comrade of Vol O'Hanlon on that fateful day in 1957, when both O'Hanlon and Vol Sean South died in an IRA attack on Brookborough RUC Barracks in nearby County Fermanagh.



● GERRY ADAMS

Make sure you have a vote

SINN FEIN is advising all members and supporters to check their local electoral draft registers immediately to ensure that their names are on the register, thus entitling them to vote in the forthcoming local elections.

The deadline for registration in the twenty-six counties is next Tuesday, January 15th.

Those who have already completed registration forms and sent them off should check that their names actually appear on the draft register.

Electoral registration forms for those not already registered can be obtained from post offices, public libraries or local authority offices where the draft registers are also available.



SIX COUNTIES

The official deadline for registration in the six counties has passed but it is still possible to register. Contact your local Sinn Fein advice centre for further details.



Irish progress in prisons

FIFTEEN republican prisoners passed the Fainne examination for Irish language learners in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh last week.

Two of the fifteen, Peadar Whelan from Derry and Padraig Mac an tSóir from Letterkenny, were awarded An Fainne Oir, the prestigious gold badge of the fluent Irish speaker.

Of the remainder, Pol O Ceallaigh and Colm Peake, from Belfast, won the Fainne Airgead while the other nine received the Fainne Daitle, which is for students who have mastered basic phrases in Irish. The nine are Sean Adams (Ballymurphy), Brian McCool (Derry), Jim

Donnelly (Ardayne), John Doherty (Derry), Damien McCann (Lurgan), H. McGuire (Newry), Paddy Fagan (Newry), Paul Baker, J. Flynn and John McFadden (Belfast).

Despite a ban on Irish books and publications in the H-Blocks, there are now almost 200 prisoners learning Irish. An Fainne is in fact banned as well but the prisoners have surmounted this obstacle by presenting the students with hand-made certificates.

Details of the H-Block results have been forwarded to Comhcheist an tSualtheantais, a Dublin-based organisation responsible for promoting An Fainne, which has in the past praised the prison language revival. The Sinn Fein cultural department has undertaken to forward Na Fainní won by the prisoners to their families.

Glór na nGael

A Chára,

Glór na nGael is a national competition, organised by Cumann na Sagart to find the area in Ireland which does the most to promote the Irish language.

The West Belfast committee of Glór na nGael was set up in 1982 and since then the area has carried off three major prizes in the competition. These include the prize for the best new entry in 1982-83 and the prize for promotion of the Irish speakers badge, An Fáinne, in 1983-84.

Every language group in West Belfast is involved in the work of Glór na nGael and recently, the MP for the area, Gerry Adams, presented £300 between six cultural schemes on our behalf.

As part of our entry for the 1984-85 competition we have contacted credit unions, banks, community groups and the GAA, urging them to promote Irish in all their dealings with the community. We are pleased to announce that the Falls Community Council has already adopted this suggestion. At Christmas we produced 1,000 posters in Irish bearing the seasonal message 'Beannacht na Nollag oraibh'.

At present, we are contacting all schools in our area asking that they upgrade the standard of Irish in local schools. It is our experience that the vast majority of parents would welcome any move to increase the time allocated to the teaching of Irish. Inevitably, adults who attend language night classes regret the fact that they did not get an opportunity to learn Irish when at school.

Therefore, we would urge all parents who are now planning the post-primary education of their children to ensure the secondary school of their choice provides pupils, at the very least, with the opportunity to study our native language up to third year.

Máirtín Ó Muilleoir,
Cathaoirleach,
Coiste Ghlór na nGael,
Béal Feirste Thiar.

Disgusting remarks

A Chára,

I write with reference to your Burke's at the Back article which appeared in AP/IR, November 29th.

I wish to complain in the strongest possible terms at the manner in which Mr Burke dealt with his two 'funny' articles on homosexuality.

As a staunch supporter of the Irish Republican Movement, I was disgusted by the remarks made by him in his column.

His first article on the army cadets was only worthy of a small place in the *News of the World*, his description of a man of twenty as a 'youth' was just the same type of word play as the capitalist press use to influence working people.

His second article on the Dun Laoghaire councillor was equally disgusting; I personally do not find anything remotely funny about men lurking about public toilets in order to find sex. In fact I find the whole thing rather sad and indeed an indictment of the society that 'we' as republicans and socialists want to see abolished.

I come from the Turf Lodge area and I am well aware of the bigotry per-

mála poist

ALL letters should be addressed to The Editor, An Phoblacht/Republican News, 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast, or 44 Parnell Square, Dublin. Letters should be written as clearly as possible, preferably on one side of paper only. Names and addresses should always be included, even when not for publication.



THE TASK BEFORE US

Comrades,

We, the republican prisoners in Cage 11, Long Kesh, would like to take this opportunity to extend New Year greetings to all our imprisoned comrades, whether they are held in the North, in the Free State or in England.

In the wake of the Brighton attack, we have seen renewed activity on the part of the British and Free State governments to reach some sort of compromise on the future of the Northern six counties.

We are all aware that, under the cloak of concern for the nationalist people, the real driving force behind their efforts is the fear of our growing political support.

Both governments have had ample opportunity in the last sixty years to solve the

petuato against gay people, a bigotry no different from the religious bigotry that has been perpetuated by our loyalist overlords. It will take a long time to erase anti-gay attitudes and I really don't think that Kevin Burke's article will help speed the process up.

We are not the purveyors of hate, racism, and sexism.

Let's leave that to the National Front and the loyalists.

Anton O Ceallaigh,
Sheffield,
England.

Objectives

Dear Editor,

As a member of the Socialist Workers' Movement, I wish to reply to Eddie Byrne's letter headed 'Objectives' (AP/IR, 29/11/84). In it he attempts to answer three questions posed by B. Gargan in a previous issue. These relate to the Marxist position on republicanism.

1. Is the Republican Movement a working-class movement? We recognise that Sinn Féin is committed to the underprivileged. In that respect there has been a move to the left.

The membership is largely working-class. But that does not mean that they are socialists. For instance, Fianna Fáil draws 'large' support from 'workers despite being a bosses' party.' Sinn Féin is not committed to the bosses but its left-wing is limited, as I will explain.

2. Does it clearly identify

the class differences which exist?

Sinn Féin recognises that a class society exists but this is not central to its ideology. It starts from a nationalist view of society and its whole strategy is based on this.

In the H-Block struggle it looked to some of society's most conservative elements for support. This was all part of Sinn Féin's 'broad alliance' theory; that somehow the anti-imperialist struggle transcends class divisions.

3. Are its objectives the destruction of capitalism in Ireland?

In his Ard-Fheis speech, Gerry Adams talked about a new republic which would see 'a realignment of forces along left and right lines'. In other words national independence must come first - then we can bring about socialism.

Adams goes on to outline Sinn Féin's economic plan. He advocates 'a planned economy which is not concerned with the maximising of profits for multinationals and private enterprise'.

But efforts to build up such an economy, while capitalism exists all round, would require profit-making by the state itself. Workers would continue to be exploited.

Socialism cannot exist in one country alone because of the pressures from international capitalism. Russia is a tragic 'proof of this' - since the days of Stalin it has been clearly state-capitalist.

What 'socialism' really means is workers directly controlling the means of production. A workers' revolution is necessary for this and must

people, but their hypocritical platitudes on solving the evils of unemployment and poverty must be continually highlighted by our Movement.

The much vaunted and long-awaited upturn in the economy, promising employment and good times for all, must be exposed for the fallacy it is, Ireland's productivity is such that poverty need not exist. Production is not our problem, rather it is the inequitable distribution of the fruits of production.

This question of distribution is vital and will become more so as the use of technology increases. The labour force becomes less important numerically as the use of capital grows. Unemployment is

spread internationally. So, from a Marxist point of view, nationalism is an empty formula.

Only the working class has any objective interest in defeating British imperialism. This ties in with their need to overthrow capitalism itself.

The bosses in the South have no such interest. They would be happy to make a deal with Thatcher which would simply stabilise the Southern state.

Even if the Dublin Forum did get the Brits out, capitalism would remain intact. Nowadays, there can be no all-class alliance committed to defeating imperialism.

By facing up to these facts, Sinn Féin would cease to be a Republican Movement. It would have to recognise the need for a workers' revolution and this would mean a complete change in strategy.

J. Davis,
Dublin 9.

Media manipulation

A Chára,

Ever since the participation of Sinn Féin in elections the media has been manipulated by the British government portraying a 'Sinn Féin versus the SDLP' image.

For instance, where Sinn Féin have been successful in the past, it was not a defeat for the British government, but a defeat for the SDLP only. Obviously, where Sinn Féin are successful, it's a defeat for the SDLP but the British government have used

endemic under the capitalist system and will rise, and we must make people aware of this fact.

Our comrades in the Third World are struggling desperately against the forces of imperialism and racism. To those people the exploitation and greed is blatantly obvious, but here we must work to expose the attitudes of the ruling class for what it is: at best a patronising 'help the poor', and at worst a total indifference to the suffering and indignity of poverty.

We have much more in common with other colonially oppressed people than we have with Europe, in that we need labour-intensive industries for our young and growing population, and capitalism will never offer us this alternative.

We commend the attacks by our comrades in Sinn Féin on the economic and social system in this island.

The task before us is formidable and we can never allow ourselves to relax into a reformist daydream. Higher unemployment benefits, while welcome in the short term, are no long-term answer.

We must increase the party membership's awareness of the problem and our proposed solutions. Only then can a concerted attempt be made to make the public aware of their plight.

Of course, the only long-term solution is control of our destiny as a nation, and working-class control of that nation's resources.

Tugaimid ár n-ghaighair ar an bhthóir fhada romhainn agus a stadfaimid go mbeid an bus againn.

Republican prisoners,
Cage 11,
Long Kesh.

Remember the Westminster elections where Gerry Adams was elected, the only one who seemed to be defeated was Gerry Fitt. Fitt actually played the role. He contested an election where he knew he was going to be humiliated, for the eyes of the media and the public would be on him and his vote, not the policies of Sinn Féin against the British government.

Peadar Ó Gríofa,
POW.

Gorta

A Chára,

Is mílteanach an cruataí atá muintir na hAethíopie ag fáil faoi. Tá na mílte acu ag fáil bháis in aghaidh an lae mar gheall ar an triomach agus ar an ghorta. Tá tírtháile sin Afraca faoi smoladh an ghorta. An Chéim mar shampla, ach ní rudaí chomh hola ná tíoraí sin go fóill agus atá siad san Aethiopia.

Tá suas le míliúin amháin daoine i mbéal an bháis sa tír seo agus mura bhfaigheann siad bia roimh i bhfad gheobhadh siad bás den ocras. Is é an chuid is measa den scéal go bhfuil neart bia sa domhan le iad a chait.

Bhíonn Rialtas Reagan agus Rialtas Chomhpháil Eacnamaíoch na hEorpas ag machnaimh go gcuirfidh siad an t-éireann 'b' is an t-éireann seo aird chun ag ár aghaidh riannan na figiúirí go fófadh ó bhéal na n-áir rialtais nuair a bhíonn

siad ar an teilifís.

Luaitear figiúirí móra mar 50,000 tonna gráin agus míliúin púir nile de chabhair. Cuireann sin in iúl do dhaoine go bhfuil siad ag déanamh scoth ghrá go dtí go n-annharcann tú ar an iomarca atá i stór acu sna sílbihtí ba leis na blianta fada.

Dánnann siad seo ag iarraidh praghanna margail a ardaí chun níos mó beathaigh a bhaint amach díobh féin. Le linn dóibh a bheith ag smaoineamh ar dhéanann ára chun maoin a thógáil faigheann beirt paiste bás achan nóméad den la mar gheall ar an ghorta.

Is lámhaigh a tháir in Éirinn fadó nuair a tháinig aicéir ar na pírláir. Níorbh gorta é dáiríre áir bhí go leor bia ag fáil chun an pobal a chosú. Ach bhí ar na daoine bochtá cíosanna a foc agus glacadh leis an bheagán a bhí acu mar foc-afocht agus cuireadh anonn chun na tíarnaí talaimh a bhí slán díobh i Sasain é.

Bhí stóir mhóra gráin faoi ghlas i gCorcaigh chomh maith ach níor áirinnadh mórdán amach ar an pobal.

Tháir sé ansin agus tá sé ag fáil anois agus dírlídh sé arís. Tá an rachmasaí sanchach chun maoinne agus chun cumhachta agus is cuma leo fáil dhaoine bocht sa domhan.

Ach fad is tá an rachmasaí ag iarraidh bunáiste phoiblí a fháil ar an tubaiste seo tá gnáth muintir an domhain ag obair ar aghaidh go dtí an son na ndaoine goirach san Aethiopia.

Cime Pobhlachtach,
Na Cásanna,
An Chéim Fhada.

NATO supports strike

Dear Editor,

At the recent meeting of the Dublin Regional Council of the National Association of Tenants Organisations (NATO), it was unanimously agreed to support the stand being taken by the Dunnes' Stores strikers in Henry Street.

We condemn the position taken by the gadaí who, once again, used force against an official trade union picket-line which has the full backing of Congress.

Together with Bishop Tutu of South Africa, the Nobel Peace Prize winner, we call on all our members throughout Dublin to support the strike against the sale of South African goods in Dunnes' Stores.

We also call on the government to take action in support of the Anti-Apartheid Movement's call for a ban on the import of South African goods.

Millions of black workers and their families starve in slums in South Africa, without any civil or human rights, terrorised by a tiny white minority.

Support the Dunnes' strikers - don't pass the picket!

Peter Conlon,
PRO,
Dublin Regional Council of NATO.

Thanks

A Cháirde,

I wish, through the columns of your paper, to thank all comrades in Ireland, Britain, America, Europe and Australia who sent us greeting cards, letters, books etc throughout the year.

We appreciate your support and regret not being able to reply to everyone.

Brendan Dowd,
Leicester Prison,
England.

REVIEWS

o'more's almanac

Cool, calm and collected

BY
RORY
O'MORE

ON the Irish music scene it is easy enough to name the top female singers in any particular field without too much fear of contradiction — jazz has Honor Heffernan, rock has Flo McSweeney, country has Susan McCann, best all-rounder is Maura O'Connell, and so on.

I suppose I have already been contradicted four times come to think of it, but without any doubt I am sure of agreement of the best of the folk/traditional vocalists — Mary Black.

Her latest album, *Mary Black Collected*, confirms that position. It takes three songs from the *General Humbert II* album of 1982, three from the *De Danaan LP Song for Ireland* of 1983 and four newly-recorded tracks, and presents a convincing solo artist.

The clarity of Mary Black's voice is already a legend and nowhere is that more obvious than in her rendering of the traditional air *She moves through the fair*, in which she has the unusual accompaniment of Amrit Grewal on sitar.

Indeed, she is well served by the musicians, who include Peter Browne on uilleann pipes and Kevin Glackin on fiddle.

Other tracks on this album include the Stephen Foster song that she has made a classic, *Hard Times*, and Eric Boyle's lament *My youngest son came home today*.

Incidentally, why do I always add a word to the chorus of *Song for Ireland*?

"I stood at your Atlantic Sea
And sang a song for Ireland."

To which I add the rhyming 'free'.

Must be the Wolfe Tones syndrome.

Another renowned soloist is the Northern folk maestro Len Graham who has produced another excellent album, his fifth, entitled *Ye Lovers All* and comprising love songs, serious and not so serious, drawn from Antrim to Donegal.

As a traditional singer, Gra-

ham is perhaps at his best in the art of unaccompanied singing, but, that being said, the accompaniment provided by Fintan McManus on guitar and bouzouki on a number of tracks adds an extra, impressive dimension.

Fidel and the *Fianna* may sound to readers of this paper as though members of that particular republican youth movement have been on a recent visit to Cuba. In fact it is the name of a seasonal entertainment for young people at Dublin's Eblana Theatre.

The main Christmas productions in Dublin, as elsewhere, are, as usual, pantomimes imported from Britain and, even worse, both *Cinderella* at the Olympia and

Dick Whittington at the Gaiety are versions penned by a former member of the Coldstream Guards.

The Eblana production, however, by the Fairy Tale Factory, proves that there are plenty of inspirations in Irish folk history for Christmas entertainment.

This one brings Fionn Mac Cool, Cormac Mac Airt, Diarmuid and Grainne and a member of the Green Fianna from Glasgow called Scottie. Fidel is the guy who is able to conjure up all these characters.

It is an entertainment which, for imagination, beats the other lot out of sight and deserves far bigger audiences than can fit into the tiny theatre.



Mary Black
Collected



● MARY BLACK

SPORT

Woulfe whistles a familiar tune

BY JOHN JOE KING

TIME for the GAA county conventions and once again the howl of the Woulfe is heard in the land.

At the Dublin convention last Sunday, the notorious Tom Woulfe once again had us yawning with his annual appearance in GAA circles under the banner of the Civil Service Club.

There were no surprises from Woulfe, who once again paraded his extraordinary logic.

On the one hand he moved a motion for this year's Congress in Ballina, seeking, yet

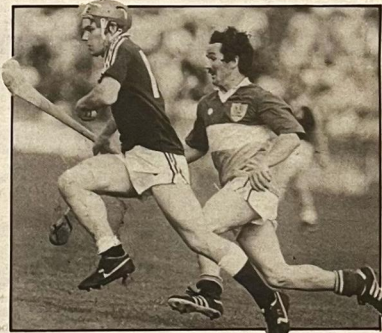
ow, but many clubs have made up for that failure.

This of course has enraged the likes of Woulfe, who has persuaded the Dublin county convention to seek a reversal every year since, only to be overwhelmingly defeated by other counties at Congress.

This year the vote was 94 to 94, but chairperson Don Cotter abandoned the usual practice of the chair, which would plump for the status quo when there is no majority for change, and threw his casting vote behind Woulfe.

HYPOCRISY

However, Woulfe exposed the hypocrisy of his 'non-political' position by going on to move a motion which would remove the ban on members of the RUC and British army becoming members of the GAA. In a totally political speech, he argued that Brits and RUC playing GAA would mean 'unity' in the sport — presumably after



kicking out of the organisation all those nationalists throughout the country who wouldn't pollute themselves by playing sport with these murderers.

Woulfe's motion got plenty of ridicule, with one delegate pointing out that an RUC man playing GAA in the North would, before the match, have to tear down any Tricolour

flying over the ground. Others made it clear that they were not prepared to insult their Northern fellow-members by suggesting such a change.

On the rules of the game, there will be some welcome changes advocated by Dublin in Ballina including the ending of palmed goals or points in hurling, which has always been

illogical and negative in regard to skill.

And following the Australian tour here, motions were passed in favour of allowing free kicks and side-line kicks to be taken from the hands rather than the time-wasting place-kicks. But, I note that at the Louth convention, also on Sunday, these changes were defeated, so we will have to wait and see if the Australian rules which so caught the imagination of spectators will fall foul of conservatism. As more county conventions take place, we will see how this progresses and hopefully will see some imaginative ideas on the fading National League and the Railway Cup.

In Dublin on Sunday, it was unfortunate that Woulfe was the one who moved a motion for an open draw in the All-Ireland. Either that fact, or Dublin's comfortable ride through Leinster in the competition, ensured its defeat, but other counties should prove more adventurous, even though I have little hope of seeing it passed at Congress.

leabhar

Aistear aisteach

LE IOMHAR MAG AOIDH

AISTEAR iontach sa saol i ndiaidh an bháis agus scéalta fá rudaí aisteacha gan mhíniú a thárla do dhúine nó do dhaoine atá sa leabhar seo. Tá tuairim is dhá dhosaen scéal ann agus tá taibhseoiracht de gach cineál le fáil idir an chróchnaí agus an taise.

Bhain mé suil ar an scéal fán deorai, a bfu ar a bhealach chun an bhaile ón choigríoch, áit a raibh sé ar na péas le tamall de bhianta. Bhí sé ag rothlaocht thar reilig an pharóiste fá uair an mheán-

oiche agus chuála sé bogair naigh istigh san áit a raibh a mhuinint curtha.

D'amharc sé isteach agus chonaic slua bailithe i dteannta a chéile, cuid acu ar a ngúine agus bhí cruth daonna

leo, ach níor aithin sé aon duine acu. Nuair a bhain an fear a theach féin amach, bhí an teach uilig faoi sholas agus scaife fear taobh amuigh. Fuair a mháthair bás an mhaidin sin.

An scéal a b'fhearr a thairtín liom: an comhrá a bhí ag na seanfhúndúir i gcúil sheomra an tábhairne i ndiaidh na sochraide. Sean Óglaigh a bhí ionntu uilig agus iad ag cur síos ar Chogadh na nDúchrónach agus ar Chogadh na gCarad.

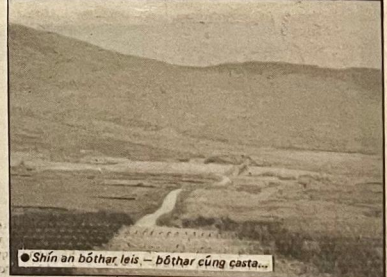
BARÚIL

Bhí an deorai ag rá go raibh bardúil aige go raibh rud éigin coerr, ag insint don chomhludair fán rud a thárla dó ag an reilig agus é ar a bhealach chun an bhaile ón

choigríoch. Dúirt fear sa chuideachta gur bhain eachtra mar sin de agus é ar a choimead sa Ghleann Beag. Seo mar chuireann an t-údar síos air:

"Tráthnóna geimhrídh 's bhí ann — é ag druidim leis an chlaisholas. Bhíis díreach arís an gnáththeach sábháite sa ghleann a bhaint amach. Cuireadh fáilte is fiche romham is ba ghearr go rabhas suite chun boird acu. Súi dár thógas chonaic an mac úd leo é scaoileadh is é ag dianstádnadh isteach orm tríd an gcúlhuinnseog.

Níor lig mé dhúine faic aile. Chomh luath is bhí an báile caite aige d'rimh sé agus thug a aghaidh ar an Gheann Mór. Dúradh leis ansin gur scaoil na Auxies an mac an oíche cheansain



● Shín an bóthar leis — bóthar cúng casta...

chénna sin.

Is trua nár cuireadh teideal ar gach scéal agus nár cuireadh clár ag tús an leabhair. An dá scéal a luagh mé nár bhí siad i ndiaidh a chéile

sa leabhar cé go raibh baint eatarthu.

● Aistear le Diarmaid Ó Súilleabháin. Foilsaite ag Coiscéim. 103 leir. Níl luach luaithe.

Powerful contrasts

BY JOHN JOE KING

DRAMATIC PRODUCTIONS from UTV itself are rare enough indeed, relying as the station does on a diet of imported material, so Sunday night's play, *Hidden Curriculum*, was all the more impressive.

On stage, the play had been a major hit for author Graham Reid and his adaptation for television, filmed entirely on location in Belfast, was done full justice by all those involved, particularly the excellent cast of Northern actors.

The action of the play takes place in a typically neglected, comprehensive school and in the miserable home of a former UDA commander who has informed on his now-imprisoned son and therefore awaits retribution.

The utter futility of the education system to equip students for their future and the equal mindlessness of sectarian violence are contrasted to subtle effect in a very powerful play which successfully uses humour in putting forward its message. Belfast's Mountcolly-

er School and a small terraced house in Fortuna Street, off the Donegall Road, were used as the settings for the television production.

From Belfast to the Black-et Islands, but RTE's *Oilean Eile/Another Island*, also on Sunday night, portrayed a similar message of establishment neglect of deprived communities.

The documentary looked at the cultural and social life of the islands, before the final evacuation in 1953 destroyed a community and deprived all of us of another rich vein of Irish life. Short-sighted economic 'savings' were once again shown to be counter-productive.

Unfortunately I was only

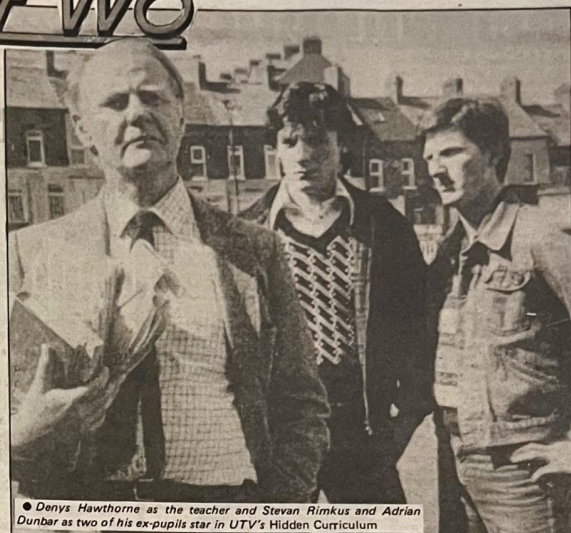
able to see the first hour of *Oilean Eile* before turning northwards to Crossmaglen and BBC2's Screen Two production *Contact*.

The book, of the same name, written by former British army captain A.F.N. Clarke, was remarkable for its mindless, racist attitude to the British presence in the North and the film was the same.

Presumably it was intended to evoke sympathy for the Brits involved, trudging wearily through endless fields and bushes on boring patrols, too tired even to speak when they returned to barracks and then getting blown to pieces — a thankless task.

But rather the film depicted the total unreality of the British presence, particularly in such areas as South Armagh where they are the only possible threat to peace for miles around.

In particular, the total lack of any moral sense in the occupation forces was graphically



● Denys Hawthorne as the teacher and Stevan Rimkus and Adrian Dunbar as two of his ex-pupils star in UTV's *Hidden Curriculum*

illustrated. The Brits opened fire without warning, held an innocent hostage to be shot if a particular find was booby-trapped, and were led by a platoon commander, the 'hero'

of the story, who rewards himself with sadistic displays of power over his captives in the form of a predilection for inserting his rifle in their mouths as if to blow their

heads off.

The film ends on a high note, however, with the 'hero' falling for a cunning IRA booby-trap and going out with a bang.

book

How little has changed

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

THE FIRST Irish Feminist Review was published by the Women's Community Press in November 1984. It is hoped that it will be an annual publication, a record of events and issues involving women throughout the year.

The areas covered include an analysis of the abortion referendum and the repercussions for Irish women. This section has a horrifying account of the death of Sheila Hodgers on March 19th 1983 from cancer. She gave birth to a baby, who also died, on March 17th. She was refused treatment for her cancer because it might harm the baby.

Her husband Brendan is taking a case against Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital in Drogheda because of the lack of treatment and also because Sheila Hodgers was not told that a pregnancy could reactivate an earlier cancer.

The section on women at work includes an account of Eileen Flynn's dismissal from her teaching job and her fight against the decision, the part played by the wives of the Ranks workers in their long

occupation of the mill, and an article on sexual harassment at work.

There is a long section on women in prison, which covers the Armagh Strip-Search Campaign and a history of Armagh Jail. Also in this section is an interview with Roisin Loughlin and Colette Breslin whose husbands are imprisoned under paid-perjury evidence, and Mountjoy and Limerick prisons are both reported on in a very comprehensive and well-researched section on all aspects of women prisoners.

The Sisters for Justice group explain their reasons for organising and working in a way that is a revolutionary departure for religious, and the Women's Community Press report on their development and achievements. There is a report on the huge Irish Women's Conference that was

held in Dublin last April, a 'What women are doing' section, and a round-up of women's groups around the country and their activities.

There was obviously a real and conscious effort to make this a national review and it is a most informative and broad examination of women and the situations and issues they are involved in.

TESTAMENT

Rosemary Cullen Owens has written a profoundly depressing book. *Smashing Times — A History of the Irish Women's Suffrage Movement 1889-1922* is above all else a testament to how little has changed for women in Ireland, and how little 'getting the vote' meant when the roots of women's oppression were not tackled.

In 1930, Helena Moloney wrote 'The Women's Movement, now unhappily long spent, which aroused such a deep feeling of social consciousness and revolt among women of a more-favoured class, passed over the heads of the



Irish working woman and left her untouched.' She could've been talking about today, though there are increasingly encouraging signs that this is being changed. (See *Irish Feminist Review*!)

The insistence of some suffragists on concentrating on getting the vote for women to the exclusion of all else is a view supported by Rosemary Cullen Owens, in spite of the

fact that her own book proves that that view was wrong. She condemns republican women, some of whom were in the forefront of the suffrage movement, for their 'other connections' is the Republican Movement, concluding that their 'other connections' weakened the campaign for votes for women.

It was because the suffrage

movement was isolated from the political happenings of the day, the Rising and the Tan War, that in the end nullified the victory of winning votes for women. Women lost their strongest voice with the defeat of the revolution, and the same women who had fought for women's rights and for the republic refused to be a party to the Treaty.

This is not to say that some of the criticisms of Sinn Féin are not valid. Sinn Féin women should take careful note that in 1917 a resolution was put to the executive of Sinn Féin by republican women who were also suffragists. It called on Sinn Féin to ensure that all pamphlets and leaflets issued by Sinn Féin emphasise the equality of women. A very similar motion was put to an Ard-Fheis a few years ago.

Both these motions were passed. It is up to republican women of today to make sure that in another 77 years our great-grand-daughters don't have to put yet another such motion to a Sinn Féin Ard-Fheis.

Smashing Times is published by Attic Press, 48 Fleet Street, Dublin 2, price IR£4.95.

The *Irish Feminist Review* '84 is published by Women's Community Press, 48 Fleet Street, Dublin 2, price IR£3.95.

Now available

IRIS No.9

The republican magazine

ISSUE No. 9 of IRIS — the republican magazine is now available.

The theme of the issue is political involvement in the community and there are articles on planning in the Donegal Gaeltacht, the campaign against heroin in Dublin and Sinn Féin's involvement in housing in Belfast.

Elsewhere in *IRIS* there is an interesting exchange of views on the relationship be-

tween pacifism and the campaign for nuclear disarmament, between Peter Emerson of CND and Sinn Féin's Danny Morrison.

Other articles examine unionism's academic 'truth' at Queen's University, analyse the campaign for segregation within the North's sports and review the IRA's military operations in the period July to November.

A special feature in the magazine is the publication for the first time of IRA doc-

uments gathered by the late republican leader Ernie O'Malley which provide a fascinating insight into the critical early months of the Civil War.

All orders to be addressed to
IRIS Distribution,
51/53 Falls Road, Belfast.
£1 sterling or Ir£1.20 (plus 50p p&p)



REMEMBERING THE PAST

GREEN, John Francis, (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol John Francis Green, North Armagh Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who was assassinated by British undercover agents on January 10th 1975. Thug sé raibh aige ag troid ar son na saoirse. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the North Armagh Brigade.

GREEN, John Francis, (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol John Francis Green, North Armagh Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who was murdered on January 10th 1975. Always remembered by Upper Bann Sinn Féin.

GREEN, John Francis, (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol John Francis Green, Oglagh na hEireann, who was murdered by British crown forces on January 10th 1975. "Our revenge will be the liberation of all and the final defeat of the oppressors of our nation." - Bobby Sands. Always remembered by Jackie, Bernie and family, Cathleen, Simon and family, and his many friends in Castletown.

GREEN, John Francis, (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol John Francis Green, Oglagh na hEireann, who was murdered by British crown forces at Mullagh County Monaghan, on January 10th 1975. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for him. Always remembered by Monaghan Sinn Féin comhairle ceantair.

GREEN, John Francis, (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol John Francis Green, Oglagh na hEireann, who was murdered on January 10th 1975 by British crown forces. A moment's thought for one who has laid down his life for one of you. Always remembered by the John Francis Green Sinn Féin cumann, Castletown.

McDAID, James, (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol James McDavid, Derry Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who was killed on active service on December 29th 1972. I measc laochra na nGaeil raibh a nam dílis. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Derry Brigade.

McDAID, James, (12th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol James McDavid, Derry Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who was killed on active service on December 29th 1972. D'obair sé agus fuair sé bás ar son saoirse. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in Derry Sinn Féin.

O'NEILL, Danny, (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Danny O'Neill, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who was killed on active service on January 7th 1972. I measc laochra na nGaeil raibh a nam dílis. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

O'NEILL, Danny, (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Danny O'Neill, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who was killed on active service on January 7th 1972. Fuair sé bás ar son saoirse mhuintir na hEireann. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in Sinn Féin, Belfast.

O'NEILL, Danny, (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Danny O'Neill, Oglagh na hEireann, who died on January 7th 1972 after being shot by British occupation forces. RIP. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for his brave and noble soul. Mass offered, just a prayer from one who loved you, just a memory fond and true, for in my heart you will live forever. I thought the world of you. Always remembered by Aunt Bridie, Uncle Tom and Uncle Robert.

O'NEILL, Danny, (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear cousin Vol Danny O'Neill who died for Ireland on January 7th 1972. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. Always remembered by O'Donnell, Gráinne, Donagh, Leo and Tara.

O'NEILL, Danny, (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of our dear friend and comrade Vol Danny O'Neill, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who was killed on active service on January 7th 1972. I measc laochra na nGaeil raibh a nam dílis. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in Fionna Eireann.

SLOAN, Michael, (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Michael Sloan, Flanna Eireann, who was killed on active service on January 11th 1972. I measc laochra na nGaeil raibh a nam dílis. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in Fionna Eireann.

SLOAN, Michael, (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Michael Sloan who died on active service on January 11th 1972. Ní bheadh saoirse ann gan saoirse ann lucht obair. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in Ballymurn Sinn Féin.

SLOAN, Michael, (13th Anniversary). In loving memory of Vol Michael Sloan who gave his life for the cause of Irish freedom on January 11th 1972. Always remembered by his brother Eugene, Anna and Eugene Og.

SLOAN, Michael, (13th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Michael Sloan, Oglagh na hEireann, who gave his young life in the fight for Irish freedom on January 11th 1972. Go mairt ar broocht sin. Always remembered with pride by the Stone family, Ballymurn.



BURNTOILET

PETER O'ROURKE
The violent attack upon civil rights marchers at Burntollet Bridge, outside Derry, in January 1969, was a turning-point for the Civil Rights Movement.

It further alienated the nationalist population in the North, many of whom now believed that both the Stormont government and its sectarian police force were irreformable and therefore must go.

In December 1968, following months of Civil Rights marches, with the

off from the City Hall in Belfast on January 1st 1969. The march was blocked by Paisleyites and rerouted at various stages, to prevent it moving through loyalist towns and towers.

HARASSMENT

There was constant physical harassment along the route from the Paisleyites and off-duty 'B' Specials and open collusion between loyalist mobs and uniformed RUC.

The march reached its climax on the morning of the fourth day on the road between Claudy and Derry. Here the marchers were escorted to Burntollet Bridge by the RUC. It was a trap, with the loyalists waiting on the hillside above the bridge.

The marchers were ambushed, they were stoned, clubbed and dozens were driven off the road and into the river Faughan; some seriously injured.

SURVIVORS

Many of the two hundred attackers were 'B' Specials, and even the RUC joined in. The survivors were attacked twice more, with stones and petrol-bombs, before they reached Derry to a rapturous welcome from a huge crowd in Guildhall Square.

That night the RUC, drunk and furious that the marchers had got through, ran amok in the Bogside breaking windows and doors and beating everyone in sight.

For many of the marchers, Burntollet was the watershed: there was no going back. Protest had been pushed beyond the demands for Civil Rights reforms into a struggle for national freedom.

The Civil Rights march from Belfast to Derry was ambushed at Burntollet Bridge on January 4th 1969.

Irish Lesson 109

The pronunciation given in brackets is as near as possible to the sound.

CH is sounded as in LOCH
O and Y before A, O and U are diphthongs with the tongue pressed against the upper front teeth.
DH and GH are like a G the back in the throat almost a gurgling.

Cén? (kayn) - what?
Ait (aw-ít) - place
Uair (ooir) - time
Luach (looch) - value
Fíonfás (tee-on-ow-shik) - an accident
Táthais (tath-ais) - price
Cnaghn (koyown) - one, as well as head

Cén t-am? (kayun town) - what time?
Ait (aw-ít) - place
Uair (ooir) - time
Luach (looch) - value
Fíonfás (tee-on-ow-shik) - an accident
Táthais (tath-ais) - price
Cnaghn (koyown) - one, as well as head

the value of the pound?
Cán praghas a bhí ag Séan ar an dtigh? - What price had John on the house?
Cán ceann a thógfaid tú? - Which one will you take?
Cén t-am a d'imigh Una? - What time did Una (Agnès) go?
Cén fáth a chugadh ar ar rathar? - Why did she go on a bike?
1 - Cén gnó dó é? (kayn gnów doe ay) - What business of his is it?
2 - Cé bhfuil do thriall? (caw wíll dhoo-trí-all) - Where are you going?
3 - Céan comh? (kayn koyown ay) - Which one is it?
4 - Luach gan teora (looch gone teor-uh) - value unlimited.

COMHBHRON

AUSTIN. The staff of the Republican Press Centre, Belfast, extend deepest sympathy to the sudden death of his mother.

AUSTIN. Deepest sympathy is extended to Joe Austin on the sudden death of his mother, From Marie and Silé.

AUSTIN. The members of Baile Duin Finn Sinn Féin extend deepest sympathy to our comrade Joe and the Austin family on the death of his mother Margaret.

AUSTIN. The staff of Connolly House extend sincere condolences to our comrade Joe and the Austin family on the sudden death of his mother Margaret.

FLEMING. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Claran Fleming who died while on active service on December 2nd 1984. "Na hamadain, na hamadain, d'fhág sí agáin ar bhfinníní marbh, ach fhág sí."

atá na huaigheanna seo in Éirinn, ní bheadh síochán ann saoirse." Ar dheis go raibh a nam. Ó a chara, Spazer.

FLEMING. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of my friend and comrade Vol Kieran Fleming who died while on active service to destroy the desire for freedom, they won't break you. They won't break the desire for freedom, they won't break the desire for freedom. It is in my heart. The day will dawn when all the people will see the desire for freedom to show. It is then we will see the rising of the moon. - Bobby Sands. From Paul McGlinchey (Magill).

FLEMING. Sincere sympathy is extended to the family circle and friends of Kieran Fleming, Derry, whose death saddened us all. RIP. From Kevin McCloy, Laurence McKewen and Joe Culbert (H-Block).

HURSON. Deepest sympathy to Sally and the children and to the Hurson family circle on the death of our

friend Francis. RIP. From Michael and Marie Tully and family, Drumlish, County Londonderry.

HURSON. The Martin Hurson Sinn Féin cumann, Longford town, extend sincere sympathy to the wife and family of the late Francis Hurson who died recently.

HURSON. The republicans of County Londonderry wish to extend their deepest sympathy to Sally Hurson and children and to the Hughes and Hurson family circles on the recent death of Francis. We were privileged to have known him. Ní bheadh a leithid ann arís. Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a nam úsáil.

McCORM. The republican prisoners in English jails wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of John on the death of his father. Ar dehis Dá go raibh a nam dílis.

McCORM. The POW Department, Belfast, extends deepest sympathy to John and the McCorm family on the recent death of his father. Ar dehis Dá go raibh a nam dílis.

McLIVENNA. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family, friends and comrades of Vol Sean McLivenna who died while on active service on December 17th 1984. From the Barry Morris Sinn Féin cumann, Crossmaglen.

McLIVENNA. Sincere sympathy is extended to the wife and family of Vol Sean McLivenna, Oglagh na hEireann, who was killed in action on December 17th. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. Deeply regretted by the staff and patrons of Traynor's Bar, Dundalk.

McLIVENNA. Deepest sympathy is extended to the wife and family of Vol Sean McLivenna who was killed on active service on December 17th 1984. From the entire Higgins family circle, Dundalk and Belfast.

McLIVENNA. Deepest sympathy to Pat and kids and the family circle on the death of Vol Sean McLivenna who died on active service on December 17th 1984. From his friends Joe and Margaret and baby Padraig.

McLIVENNA. Sincere sympathy to the wife and children of Vol Sean McLivenna who was killed in action on December 17th 1984. Mary, Queen of Ireland, pray for him. From Danny and Jean.

MULGREW. With the republic of the death of James Mulgrew, father of our friend and comrade Kevin. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Kevin and the Mulgrew family. Ar dehis Dá go raibh a nam dílis.

MULGREW. The POW Department, Belfast, extends deepest sympathy to Kevin and his family circle on the death of his father. Ar dehis Dá go raibh a nam dílis.

O'BRIEN. Deepest sympathy is extended to Kathleen, Michael and the nieces and nephews of our dear friend Sonny who died recently. May he rest in peace. From Michael and Marie Tully, Drumlish.

O'BRIEN. The Casey/McCreesh Sinn Féin cumann, North Longford, extend their deepest sympathy to the Lennon family on the death of Sonny O'Brien, RIP.

BEANNACHTAL

DONEGAN, Jim and Kevin, (Portlaoise and H-Block). Happy New Year. Love from all the family at 35. Donegan, Jim and Kevin.

DONEGAN, Jim and Kevin, (Portlaoise and H-Block). Happy New Year. Love from Ann and Seamus, Drumintee.

DONEGAN, Jim and Kevin, (Portlaoise and H-Block). All the best for 1985. From Michael O'Hare.

DUNCAN, Tony, (Portlaoise). Happy New Year. Love from Ann and Seamus, Drumintee.

FERRIN, Leonard, (H7). Happy birthday. Thinking of you always, love, from your mother and Gerry and your brothers John and Gerry.

FERRIN, Leonard, (H7). Happy birthday, Leonard. You're always in our thoughts. From Granda Ferrin and Aunt Annie.

FERRIN, Leonard, (H7). Happy birthday, Leonard. From your cousin Barney Calligan and family.

HARTE, Seamus; TOAL, Freddie, (H-Block). All the best for the New Year. Lads. From Kevin, Frances and children.

McALLISTER, Tony. Greetings for the New Year. Always with you forever in my thoughts. Tíochdaífr 18. All my love. From your fiancée Eileen xxx.

McELROY, Hugh, (Cage 11). All the best for the New Year, Hugo. Love from Deirdre, xxx.

McELROY, Kieran and Ultan, (Crumlin Road and H-Block). New Year greetings to Kieran and Ultan. From your mother and all the family, Strabane.

O'HANLON, John, (Armagh). Best wishes for 1985, Siobhán. Hope to see you soon. Love from Susan, Oahy and all the family.

O'NEILL, Eddie, (England). Birthday greetings and best wishes for the future, Eddie. From An Cumann Cabhrach, Walsingham, Dublin.

RUSSELL, Robert, (Portlaoise). Happy New Year Robert, to you and all your friends. You are always in our thoughts. From Sammy, Gerard and Jim.

RUSSELL, Robert, (Portlaoise). Greetings for the coming year to our brother Robert and all republican POWs everywhere. Love from Marie,

Rosalene and Veronica and families. Love from Marie and the O'Rawe family.

RUSSELL, Robert, (Portlaoise). We send New Year's greetings to your brother Robert and all Irish republican POWs. Tíochdaífr 18. Love from your sister Rita, niece Julie and Lynn and brother Philip, Canada.

TRAYNOR, P.J. (H7). Best wishes for your birthday on January 11th. P.J. Take care of yourself. From Mary, Brieg, Christina, Patrick and David.

TRAYNOR, P.J. (H7-Block). Happy birthday, P.J. With love from Margaret, Frances and all your friends in the US.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all the Strabane prisoners in the English jails and to all their friends. From Raymond, Ann and family, Strabane.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Angelo, Beaky, Telly, Dimpus, Fat, Goose, Big Mary, Tony, Flair, Benzo, Lucas and not forgetting Tony McElroy wherever you are. From the McAvoy family.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS to my brother-in-law Bobby and all the lads in Crumlin Road Jail and also Malachy, Conroy, Fali, Dimpus, Flair, Lucas, Goose (Portlaoise) and Tony McMahon and Big Mary (H-Block).

NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Joe O'Connell, Harry Duggan, Hugh Doherty, Patrick Hackett, Stephen Nordone (Parkhurst), Brendan Dowd, Eddie Butler and Brian Keenan (Liscest). From the O'Connell family, Querrin.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Vincent Donnelly (Wakefield), Patrick Hackett (Parkhurst), Jimmy Monaghan (Portlaoise), Geraldine Crawford (Armagh) and all the Irish POWs at the New Year. FTP. From Minnie and Evelyn, Ailin and Declan, Dublin.

THE JOHN FRANCIS GREEN SINN FÉIN CUMANN, CASTLEBAYNEVE, COUNTY MONAGHAN, extends cordial greetings to all republican POWs in Irish and British jails. A special word of congratulations to Patsy and Bernard in Portlaoise and all the other Irish political prisoners all over the world. From Brid agus Seamus, Mulhague.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS to Gerard Rooney (Portlaoise), Hugh Rooney (Magilligan) and Philip Rooney (H-Block). Wishing you all the best for the New Year. From Minnie and Willie Higgins and family.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS and best wishes for 1985 to all County Monaghan republican POWs, but especially to Bernard and Patsy (Portlaoise) and Bill Meenan (Long Kesh). Beilbh an bus again an athbhallín le cinamh ará. FTP. From the Brennan family, Castletown.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS to all the lads in Crumlin Road Jail and also Malachy, Conroy, Fali, Dimpus, Flair, Lucas, Goose (Portlaoise) and Tony McMahon and Big Mary (H-Block).

THE JOHN FRANCIS GREEN SINN FÉIN CUMANN, CASTLEBAYNEVE, COUNTY MONAGHAN, extends cordial greetings to all republican POWs in Irish and British jails. A special word of congratulations to Patsy and Bernard in Portlaoise and all the other Irish political prisoners all over the world. From Brid agus Seamus, Mulhague.

Frank Carroll commemoration

REPUBLICANS from Dublin, Tullamore and Birr gathered together with local people in Walsh Island, County Offaly, last Sunday to pay tribute to Frank Carroll who died of leukaemia in January 1979 at the age of 31.

An eight-strong Fianna Éireann colour party led the parade, which was also attended by members of Frank's family.

Frank's father, Joe Carroll, was visibly moved, no doubt by memories of his son but also by the ceremony itself.

Amongst those who travelled from Dublin were members of Cabra Sinn Féin, whose cumann is jointly named after Frank Carroll, and Dublin West Sinn Féin, who got to know Frank through his deep concern and work in Sinn Féin and, in particular, on behalf of republican prisoners.

One of Frank's personal friends from Inchicore, Andy Connolly, chaired the proceedings. After a minute's silence, a spokesperson for the Fianna stepped forward to pay tribute.

COMMITMENT

Sinn Féin Ard Chomhairle member Sean Crowe delivered the main oration and said: "Frank was the founder of



● A Fianna Éireann colour party led the parade

the annual Christmas swim in Inchicore in aid of An Cumann Cabhrach and his commitment to the republican prisoners and their dependants was so great

that right up until two weeks before his death he was still involved in the organisation of that year's swim. "This year's local government elec-

tions will give all republicans a chance to show the same depth of commitment that Frank Carroll is remembered for."



● A wreath is laid on Frank Carroll's grave

Death of John Murphy

A VERY LARGE crowd attended the funeral, before Christmas, of life-long republican John Murphy of Aisling House, Waterville. Up to the time of his unexpected death, he was active in promoting the republican cause in South-West Kerry.

Representatives of the Republican Movement were present from all over Kerry and parts of Cork for the funeral services. His Tricolour-draped coffin was escorted by a guard of honour of his comrades and was led by a piper playing lament.

He was held in such high esteem by all sections of the community that the crowd held firmly in driving rain while Richard Behal of Killarney, in a short oration, extolled the quiet but resolute

determination of John Murphy to see Ireland re-united in peace and social justice. He had never missed the annual Bodenstown commemoration, being in the guard of honour many years, most recently last June.

"John Murphy represented all that was good and noble in Kerry and Ireland, he squared up his shoulders and stood by the creed of 'Damn your concessions England, we want our country!'"

everyone else who sympathised with us. A special word of thanks to the Kennaught Band for the cortege they provided.

A Mass will be said on your behalf.

MONTGOMERY. Gabhann muintir Mhícheál buíochas ó chroí lena gcairdé uilig agus le comrádaí Mhícheál a rinne comhbhrón leo ar a bhás rothabonn. Gabhann siad buíochas fosta leis daoine lomaóidí uilig a rinne a thaire agus a shóisrialtáil bialíneasc ná cártal Afirinn.

The family circle of the late Michael Montgomery wish to thank most sincerely their many friends and Michael's comrades who sympathised with them on their sad loss. We thank sincerely the many people who visited the house, who sent floral tributes and Mass cards and those who attended his funeral. Ar dheis Dé go raib a anam uasal.

THE republican prisoners in Irish and English jails wish to thank all our friends and supporters who sent Christmas and New Year cards and greetings. Special thanks to all our supporters in the US.

Francie Hurson

MENTION THE NAME Francis Hurson and one's mind invariably strays to Sinn Féin and to thoughts of a man who devoted his life to the republican struggle.

Francie Hurson will be badly missed by those blessed to have made his acquaintance. Francie preferred to 'do' rather than to pass the task on to someone else. No task was too big or too small for Francie Hurson, so long as the promotion of 'Irishness' was in question.

His life was that of a man of divided loyalty — to his family, his friends and to republicanism. Sincere and modest, Francie made no apologies for his strong beliefs and it was this more than anything else that ensured that his circle of friendship extended well beyond the bounds of republicanism. He was often as much respected by political opponents as by fellow republicans.

"We are a river flowing" states one



of the Moving Hearts songs, referring to the Irish freedom movement. If that is the case, then Francie Hurson was a resurgent and fast-flowing tributary whose contribution added power and vigour to this river.

For the sake of Francie, we, his republican brothers and sisters, can only serve to remember him by pledging to increase our efforts to bring closer the day that he, his brother Martin and such people as Maire Drummy, Claran Fleming and Sean McIlvenna dreamed to see, but were destined not to see.

Francie's departure has left us all that bit poorer, not least the Tyrone and national Sinn Féin structures.

Ar dheis láimh Dé go raib a anam uasal.

— Cara Gg

Buíochas

MAC GIOLLA BHRIGHDE. Gabhann leasghlaigh Gíoghach Antoine Mac Giolla Bhríghde buíochas le gach duine a chuidigh leo ar ócáid a bháis. Táimid buíochas do bhunadh Gíoghach na hÉireann, do na cumainn de Shinn Féin ar fud na tíre a ghabh comhbhrón linn, don PDG i gContae Dhoirí agus i nClár Mairtín.

Táimid buíochas fosta do Chumann Naomh Uinseann de Pól agus do gach duine eile a ghabh comhbhrón linn. Tá buíochas ar leith ag dul do Bhuníocht Cheoil Kennaught as an cortege a thug siad dúinn.

Ar fad aifeann ar bhróir son.

The family of Gíoghach Antoine Mac Giolla Bhríghde would like to thank everyone who helped them on the occasion of his death. We are grateful to the Volunteers of Gíoghach na hÉireann, to the Sinn Féin cumainn throughout the country who sympathised with us, and to the PDG in County Derry and Desertrin.

We are also grateful to the Society of St Vincent de Paul and to the

Sinn Féin AGMs

AT the AGMs of the following branches of Sinn Féin, new officer boards were elected:-

Donagall comhairle ceantair: Chair: Pat Doherty; vice-chair: Gerry McMonagle; secretary: Rosie Diamond; treasurer: Tom Bannon; county organiser: Liam MacElhinney; assistant organiser: Joe Hynes; PRO: Sean Gallagher; education: Raymond MacLaughlin; finance: Veronica Molloy; trade unions: Denis O'Donnell; prisoners: Edmond Devenney; research: Pat Ward; youth: Fergal McGilg; women: Bernadette Cassidy.

South Ulster/North Leinster comhairle limistéir: Regional organiser/rep: Malachy Foots; chair: Fra Browne; vice-chair/PRO: Pat Treanor; secretary: Sheila O'Reilly; finance: Sean McCoy; education: Pearse McGuinness; women: Ann Marie Garry; agriculture: James McElwain; trade unions: Paddy McDonald; research: Jean Lalor-Fitzpatrick; POW: Rory Doogan. **Sands/Keating cumann,** Portlaoigh, County Waterford: Cathaoiríoch: Seán O'Faoláin; leasathaoiríoch: Aontán O'Breathnach; únaí: Gearóid Ó Róid; clisteoirí: Muiris Ó Clionáide & Seamus Mac Gearáid; PRO: Philip Graham.

TORTHAÍ CRANNCHUR

Armagh Green Cross Christmas Draw
Sinning wheel: Maura Reilly, Dalton Park; harp: Agnes McGinnis, Mullacreevie Park; whiskey: Martin Bevan, Mullacreevie Park.

Balbrigan Community Centre Draw
£75: Dick Walsh, Balbrigan; £50: Dan Tullo, Balbrigan; £25: Dorothy Colton, Rush; £5: 'Newborn', Rush.

Dungannon Sinn Féin Draw
Mirrors: Eamon Rafferty, Aitaghushan, Galbally; & Philip Colton, Dungannon; wallets: Eugene McDonnell, Dungannon; belt: Thomas McKee, Dungannon; purse: Martin McCafferty, Coalsland.

Louth Sinn Féin Draw
Leather plaque: John Cairn, c/o M. Casey; Long Kesh plaque: Larry Durrigan, Colton; glass plaque: Anne O'Connor, Marian Park, Dundalk.

Imeachtaí

MINERS' BENEFIT GRAND CABARET
Featuring Blackquill & guests
8pm Friday 11th January
Bridget Bourke's
Old Bawn
TALLAGHT
Taille £2
In aid of the National Union of Mineworkers

COUNTY MONAGHAN PRISONERS RELATIVES MEETING
3pm Saturday 12th January
Sinn Féin advice centre
21 Dublin Street
MONAGHAN
Meeting to organise minibus timetable

STOP THE STRIP-SEARCHES PUBLIC MEETING
3pm Sunday 13th January
St Patrick's Hall
DUNGANNON
Speaker: Ex-POW

SLIGO COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONVENTION
3.30pm Sunday 13th January
Silver Swan Hotel
SLIGO
All members of the Republican Movement in County Sligo to attend

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION CONVENTION
4pm Sunday 13th January
Camelot Hotel
Malshide Road
DUBLIN
Organised by Dublin North-East Sinn Féin cumann
All members to attend
Supporters welcome

JOHN FRANCIS GREEN MEMORIAL MASS
8.30pm Sunday 13th January
Convent Chapel
CASTLEBLAYNEY
County Monaghan

SINN FÉIN CULTURAL DEPARTMENT MEETING
1pm Saturday 19th January
44 Farnell Square
DUBLIN
(One delegate from each comhairle ceantair to attend)

KEVIN COEN COMMEMORATION
(10th Anniversary)
12 noon Sunday 20th January
Soeey Church
SOOEY
County Sligo
Speaker: Ruairí Ó Bradaigh
Organised by Sligo NGA

CRUINNÍÚ ROINN AN CHULTÚIR COMHAIRLE LIMISTEAR ÁTHA CLIATH.
2.30pm Dé Domhnaigh
200 Éanáir

5 Slead Blessington BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH
Oifigeach chultúir g gach cumann i mBaile Átha Cliath le freastal agus daoine le tuairimí faoin chultúir i mBaile Átha Cliath

HOME-COMING FUNCTION
(For Seamus Swan & Jim Mythen)
8.30pm Friday 1st February
County Hotel
WEXFORD
Taille £9
Organised by Wexford Sinn Féin comhairle ceantair

MINI-CHOLÁISTE GHAELACH
10am to 5pm
Saturday 9th February
Conway Street Mill
BELFAST
(For more information, contact local Sinn Féin)

FINGLAS SINN FÉIN ADVISE CENTRE
10am to 5pm Tuesday to Saturday
2 Church Street
(opposite Village Inn)
Finglas
DUBLIN

Ard-Fheis video

THE Sinn Féin publicity department has produced a two-hour VHS video film of highlights of most of the debates at last year's Ard-Fheis.

The video will be of particular interest to Sinn Féin members who were unable to attend the Ard-Fheis and to potential recruits, as it gives some idea of the level of debate within the Movement.

Any Sinn Féin cumann can hire the film for three days at a cost of £3 (including post and packaging).

For details of booking, contact Áine Nic Mhurchadha, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, telephone 726932; or Brian Finnegan, 51 Falls Road, Belfast, telephone 230261.



BURKE'S AT THE BACK

By Kevin Burke

ESB gift to Sinn Fein

WHATEVER about official Coalition government attempts to hinder Sinn Fein, we can have no complaints against the semi-state Electricity Supply Board who, just before Christmas, presented *An Phoblacht/Republican News* with a video machine.

This week the video was passed on to Danny Morrison for use in Sinn Fein's publicity department.

The surprise gift came as a reward in the ESB's WinElectric scheme, whereby anyone who pays their account on time goes into a free monthly draw. *AP/RN*, as usual, paid promptly for electricity used by its offices at 44 Parnell Square, and came out of the hat.

★ ★ ★

Padraig Young of Annalong, County Down, received a demand for rates outstanding from the Department of the Environment in December, with some bad news.

In November he had paid his annual rates bill of £29 and taken advantage of the discount for prompt payment.

But the December notice brought the bad news:

"As your payment was not received by Rating Division within the specified discount period, you have not been allowed discount on the property. The amount outstanding as shown below should be remitted as soon as possible."

And the amount outstanding? Just 1p!

Mr Young is attempting to work out, to the penny of course, just how much it cost to issue this demand and post it to him.

★ ★ ★

Many Irish-Americans have been surprised to receive a personalised message from the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Michael O'Halloran, urging them to sample the remarkable pleasures of a new whiskey from Irish Distillers called Jameson 1780.

O'Halloran prattles on at length about the joys of this special Jameson whiskey and concludes:

"Please write and tell me if you find this artful combination of 12-year blends to your liking. In response to your letter, I will have your name inscribed in the Jameson museum book of honour in Dublin."

But many Irish-Americans are not impressed by O'Halloran, remembering him for his refusal to meet the New York pipe band after it had played at a hunger-strike commemoration in Buncrana during the summer.

One such was Edward Brady of Brewster, New York, who replied:

"You have dishonoured Bobby Sands and his comrades, insulted the New York City Police Department's Emerald Pipe Band, and used your high office to promote whiskey to Americans during the blessed Christmas season. You are a living example of the decadence of the Free State government."

"I can assure you, Mr O'Halloran, that I shall never drink Jameson's whiskey and will do all in my power to influence my peers to do likewise."

So O'Halloran seems set to become the world's worst salesman, but some questions remain to be answered:

1. Does O'Halloran have the approval of Dublin City Council to promote alcohol or indeed any commercial product in this way?

2. How much, if anything, has Irish Distillers paid O'Halloran to use his office to promote their whiskey?

3. If they have paid O'Halloran, has the money been paid into city funds?



● Sinn Fein director of publicity Danny Morrison accepts the ESB video from *AP/RN* general manager Caoimhghin O Caolain

I am sure the people of Dublin will await the answers with interest.

★ ★ ★

Loyalists in Ballymartin, County Down, were very worried when the Jallymartin Inn went on the market and the

local Gaelic football club were rumoured to be interested.

Last week the brethren went down to the public auction to make sure the pub would not fall into Fenian hands.

The Gaels began bidding alright but quickly dropped out leaving the loyalist

counter-bidders satisfied that they had put them out of the running and, eventually, the property went at £65,000 to a Belfast estate agent.

But the crafty Gaels had hired the same estate agent to do the serious bidding for them and it looks like bitter orange will be the order for some time to come.

★ ★ ★

The British soldier convicted of the murder of Thomas 'Kido' Reilly has been transferred to a prison in Britain to await his appeal. The transfer of Private Ian Thain was agreed without hesitation by direct-ruler Douglas Hurd before Christmas.

Of the 53 prisoners transferred to jails in Britain from the North, 43 have been members of the British army. Four Irish political prisoners have been repatriated to serve their sentences in the North, the Price sisters, Hugh Feehney and Paul Holmes, who all won transfer after a lengthy hunger-strike in the early Seventies.

Among the criteria used in considering transfers since then, according to the NIO, is whether a person has been convicted of 'heinous crimes'. It would appear that the murder of 'Kido' Reilly was not considered to be 'heinous'.

