

AN
PHOBLACHT
Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING
POLITICAL WEEKLY



Sraith Nua Im! 7 Uimhir 30 Deardain 1 Lunasa Thursday 1st August 1985 (Britain 30p) Price 25p

14th Anniversary of Internment

MARCH AND RALLY

Assemble Dunville Park
2pm Sunday, 11th August
March to BUSY BEE

Speakers from Noraid, Sinn Fein
and Troops Out Movement



TRUTH is the first casualty in war and once again the Irish republican position has been censored this week by a government and a media who have vested interests in suppressing the truth about Ireland.

As early as 1971 the British government interfered with the transmission of television programmes which included the republican position on events in the six counties.

That interference has led to self-censorship in both the BBC and ITN so that, in the intervening years, many programmes have either been altered or banned altogether. Meanwhile, the mis-information of the British government and their allies has received widespread and uncritical coverage.

Early censorship within the British media was overtaken by events in the twenty-six counties where Fianna Fail Minister Albert Reynolds and his Coalition successor, Conor Cruise O'Brien, introduced blanket censorship of the airwaves to exclude all republican spokespersons.

They were following a tradition established in 1922, when the emerging Free State junta censored both the national and provincial newspapers in an attempt to isolate republicans. With very few honourable exceptions,

the media complied.

Again in the 1940s, news of the republican internees and the atrocious conditions of prisoners in Portlaoise Prison was suppressed by the de Valera government.

COWARDLY

The record of the media in Ireland on the issue of censorship, both external and internal, has been craven and cowardly. In Britain, however, the media, and television in particular, has always boasted about its impartiality.

That 'impartiality' ended when the North erupted in 1969 and British Tommies went in to "keep the peace between the warring communities". The British government holds the purse-strings of the BBC and the 'Independent' Broadcasting Authority has shown no inclination to come into conflict with the same government on the question of Ireland.

We have seen examples of direct British government interference in the past and we have seen even more examples of programmes simply being dropped. The *Panorama* programme which featured the IRA presence in Carrickmore, County Tyrone, in 1979, caused a furore in British government circles, while programmes like *Curious Journey* (a series of interviews with IRA veterans) and *Hang Out Your Brightest Colours* (the story of Michael Collins) were never screened.

This week's censorship is, perhaps, the most blatant example to date, because it excludes the views of a democratically-elected representative of the republican people of Derry. Furthermore, it suggests that the British government is determined to introduce censorship along the lines of Section 31 without having to bring in legislation.

And on Wednesday this week it was announced that disciplinary action would be taken against BBC journalists who invited Sinn Fein president, Gerry Adams, to take part in a question-and-answer programme with young Scottish people aged between 14-18. It appears that the spectre of McCarthyism stalks the corridors of the BBC.

INSULT

Political censorship of the media is an insult to the general public because it is based on the premise that they can't think for themselves. It is an insult to journalists because it denies their competence to act impartially, and it is an insult to the concept of media being informative.

The Thatcher government is running scared of the IRA and Sinn Fein, while the BBC and ITN are running scared of the Thatcher government. But as has been stated in the past, even if they refuse to allow the force of reason to be heard, they will still have to listen to the reason of force.

OPINION

The 'out'-look

IN the high-level talks between London and Dublin there is no confusion over who is the senior participant and who has cap in hand. The talks may yet yield no new arrangements and Free State security collaboration (an intensification of which always features high on the list of British priorities) may continue at its present level.

The collapse of the talks would be a major setback to the Forum process initiated by the Dublin government and the SDLP to undermine the electoral rise of Sinn Féin. However, in contrast to the hype in which it engaged last summer and autumn, there is a certain cynicism about the present statements, or lack of statements, from FitzGerald and Hume, and there is considerable media speculation about an initiative which appears to have as its source British government officials.

It may well be that Britain is about to make decisive — not radical — political moves which Dublin and the SDLP can peddle as major concessions to their patience and 'the constitutional process'. It may well be that such moves would be supported by a massive injection of US and EEC aid as has frequently been mooted.

Last month, the SDLP's Seamus Mallon (albeit prematurely) claimed that the first July parade through the Tunnel area of Portadown was being rerouted due to pressure from Dublin. Two weeks ago a number of Armagh women prisoners were released before the completion of their sentences. Any day now, responsibility for their release will be claimed by the Free State government which, cynically, has also made concerned noises about the fate of prisoners held without release dates, about the composition of the sectarian UDR, about the alienation of nationalists from the Northern judiciary, and about cultural discrimination.

Having ignored the oppressed for so long, these expressions of concern ring hollow (even more so when one considers Dublin's non-jury courts, Portlaoise Prison, Section 31, the lack of Irish on RTE, and the sectarian nature of the state itself). Yet, there are a number of reforms and concessions, involving some of the above, which Britain could offer to Dublin without tinkering with or dismantling partition or dropping the loyalist veto.

It is this very area which Britain appears to be presently studying, and studying seriously enough to have risked a loyalist crisis over the rerouting of some parades.

Let us be clear about this.

The joint aim of Dublin and London, even though they have different starting positions, is to stabilise and 'pacify' the six counties. Of course, the more generous the concessions from Thatcher, the bigger the claims from FitzGerald of having broken the log-jam (and domestically of having scooped Hume).

Britain realises that, whilst it can make some concessions without being over-perturbed about the loyalist backlash, it is not prepared to make radical moves or support any of the Forum proposals, and will certainly be demanding increased border collaboration as its price.

To placate and reassure loyalists the package would look more attractive with the republican 'trouble-makers' behind bars, North and South, for a limited space of time, while 'moderate' nationalists are weaned away from the IRA.

So hand-in-hand with a dirty deal will come a period of increased repression and it will be selective. This would be the real outcome of agreement between Dublin and London, with the Dublin Coalition (more so than the SDLP) being the gamblers.

They would also be the losers because the momentum of republicanism is such that no mere reforms will undercut its support. Our people have not suffered the torture of imprisonment, assassination and death, and made many other sacrifices, so that Britain can attempt to make its foothold look respectable and more secure.

Dublin collaboration is out!
Counter-insurgency reform is out!
And by the time we are finished so too will Britain.



• View of Chichester Street showing widespread damage to the courthouse and surrounding buildings

IRA bombs rock North

THIS WEEK, Northern direct-ruler Douglas Hurd made the same mistake as several of his predecessors. With false bravado, he declared that the IRA 'are on the defensive'.

This type of statement, made for the sake of a much-needed morale booster for the British forces and government, has been made before.

Roy Mason was going to 'squeeze the IRA like a tube of toothpaste'. Humphrey Atkins was going to 'beat the IRA' and Margaret Thatcher claimed that the hunger-strike was the IRA's 'last card'.

Over the past week the IRA has demonstrated that far from being a spent force, their continued support among the nationalist community and their continued ability to strike at will proves that they cannot be defeated.

Two IRA bombs in Belfast this week have dealt a massive blow to the North's judicial system, once again undermined the 'normalisation' thrust of present British colonial policy, and cost Britain millions of pounds. They have demonstrated the IRA's continuing ability to move large amounts of explosives into what are regarded by the 'Brits' as 'secure areas'.

The most damaging attack occurred shortly after midnight on Sunday, July 28th, when a huge 1,000lb bomb wrecked the Belfast Recorders Court in the old Town Hall in Chichester Street, and badly damaged the Petty Sessions Court and the fire station which are adjacent.

Earlier that night around 8pm, Volunteers had commandeered a van in Andersonstown. It was taken to a second location where, covered by an armed active service unit, Volunteers loaded the two 50-gallon containers con-

taining the explosives onto the van.

The drums were then wired together with cortex detonating fuse wire but the firing set containing the detonator was not fixed.

SURVEILLANCE

Two cars carrying armed Volunteers drove ahead of the van until it reached its objective. In spite of the high level of military surveillance surrounding the city centre, in particular the courts area in Chichester Street, the Volunteers successfully placed the van into position. The firing set was attached and the two Volunteers in the van then withdrew in one of the two cars.

A warning was given and the area cleared before the bomb detonated around 12.30am. The blast, which was heard ten miles away, ripped through the buildings, partially demolishing part of the old Town Hall, seriously damaging the Petty Sessions Court, and demolishing the Ulster Tavern, a pub sitting immediately opposite the Recorders Court.

Buildings in an area up to 500 yards away were also damaged. Windows which had only recently been replaced, following an IRA bomb attack six weeks ago, were again shattered.

In claiming responsibility the Belfast Brigade described the courts as symbols of 'British misrule' and of the corrupt 'Orange judiciary'.

GREENAN LODGE HOTEL

The second bomb attack occur-

red on Wednesday morning, July 31st. Two cars, one of them a brown Vauxhall Chevette containing 300lbs of explosives drove up and parked outside the front of the Greenan Lodge Hotel on Blacks Road, on the edge of West Belfast.

Two Volunteers got out of the Chevette and climbed into the second car. Warnings were given and the hotel, which is regularly filled with business people was cleared. The bomb detonated at 10.35am and was heard over a wide area. The explosion devastated the front of the hotel starting a fire which destroyed the grill bar and two function rooms and caused damage estimated at several hundred thousand pounds.

DERRY

On Wednesday, July 17th, a Derry ASU armed with two high-velocity rifles and a grenade launcher fought a brief battle with crown forces as they passed through the Little Diamond area of Derry. The Brits were in an armoured landrover and a heavy troop-carrier — pig.

Approximately 50 rounds were fired by the Volunteers during the exchange, although they claimed no hits. The Volunteers then withdrew from the area.

On Friday, July 26th, several IRA engineers from the Derry Brigade prepared and carefully placed a 10lb anti-personnel mine in Central Drive in the Creggan. A second ASU armed with rifles kept watch while this part of the operation was in progress.

Having laid the mine and activated the remote-control equipment, the engineers then waited until the enemy entered the area.

Three times during the course of the day British army patrols passed the mine but the Volunteers were unable to detonate the charge as civilians were in the immediate vicinity.

Eventually at around 6pm, an enemy foot-patrol walked to within striking distance of the bomb. The Volunteers detonated it blowing one Brit to the ground. The Volunteers then left the area.

Derry Brigade in a statement asked civilians to bear in mind that straying too close to crown forces is dangerous and that they should wherever possible keep a good distance between themselves and the enemy.

BALLYNAHINCH

And in County Down on Wednesday, July 31st, a car-bomb was detonated, causing widespread damage to business premises.

The 500lb bomb exploded at 9.30pm, in Ballynahinch's High Street, and was heard miles away. The damage is such that some buildings may have to be pulled down. Five people were slightly injured by flying debris although ample warning was given to clear the area.



• Greenan Lodge Hotel after IRA bomb attack

BBC BOWS TO POLITICAL CENSORSHIP

BY ANNE MACKENZIE

IT WAS the week when the BBC's Board of Governors self-destructed under Mrs Thatcher's laser glare, taking the myth of the independence of British broadcasting with them.

The BBC governors' decision on Tuesday, July 31st, to capitulate to government pressure and ban the *Real Lives* documentary featuring Sinn Féin elected representative Martin McGuinness and the DUP's Gregory Campbell has proved something of an 'own goal' for the British government.

It has advertised Britain's disdain for democracy and free speech worldwide, and has therefore provoked criticism, even within the bastions of the establishment. But it will also bring with it a new epidemic of 'cold feet' among broadcasters.

Indeed, even before the *Real Lives* ban was announced the BBC management 'postponed' an access programme on 'supergrasses', made for the *Open Space* slot, and ordered the printers of the *Radio Times* to pulp a prepared article about it.

The scene was set by Thatcher's speech to the American Bar Association on July 15th when she trotted out the familiar counter-insurgency theory that the media should "starve the terrorists of the oxygen of publicity". This boils down to the absurd idea that if the TV cameras go away, armed struggles the world over will cease.

FURORE

The furore followed a familiar pattern. The *Sunday Times*, outlet for numerous stories supplied by British intelligence and the RUC, began it with a front-page article on July 28th by Barrie Penrose and Mark Hosenball. It was dishonestly headlined "Thatcher slams IRA film". Downing Street revealed next day that Thatcher's quote had been given in response to a hypothetical question and that she knew nothing about the particular BBC programme until she read the *Sunday Times*. The report, which alleged that Martin McGuinness is the IRA's Chief of Staff, quoted outraged remarks from an assortment of Tories including Douglas Hurd.

That night the BBC showed the film to journalists, and senior executives defended the decision to transmit it. The film had been thoroughly vetted in line with the internal censorship procedures on *Coverage of Matters Affecting Northern Ireland* as laid down in the BBC rule-book.

It had been approved by James Hawthorne, Controller of BBC Northern Ireland (who offered his resignation as we go to press), and Alan Protheroe, the BBC's Assistant Director General, who is also a lieutenant-colonel in Territorial Army Intelligence. This, along with the coverage in the *Radio Times* in which producer Paul Hamann refers to his subjects as "godfathers", suggests that the film did not depart significantly from the usual British propaganda. But for Britain's right-wingers any coverage of Irish republicanism is too much.

WHIPPER IN

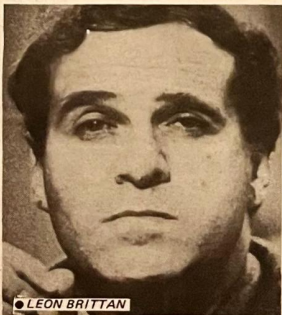
Then, on Monday, Home Secretary Leon Brittan, acting — in the words of the *London Times* — as Thatcher's "whipper in", wrote to the BBC saying that the film, which he hadn't seen, was "contrary to the national interest" and likely to give "succour to terrorist organisations". The BBC's Board of Governors announced they would hold a special meeting. On Tuesday, the hounds of the press were in full cry — one section of the media, as usual, trying to slaughter another.

The *Daily Telegraph* advised the government to take the logical step and ban the programme. The *Sun* displayed its

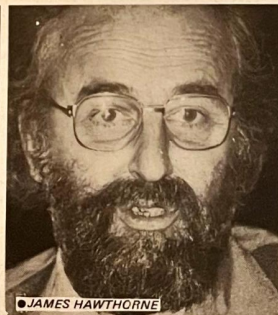
Running scared



• MARGARET THATCHER



• LEON BRITTAN



• JAMES HAWTHORNE

contempt for its readers' intelligence by printing two contradictory editorials. The first, entitled "Ban It!", called on the BBC governors to impose "a complete and immediate ban" on the programme. The second, headlined "Right to know", said that the police should tell all about a recent street battle in Toxteth because "the public has the right to know what is happening and truth, the whole truth, is the best ally of the forces of law and

ed councillors in the same way as other councillors.

COMIC

True to form, the governors at the end of their day-long meeting decided to ban the programme and TV viewers that night were treated to the comic spectacle of chairperson Stuart Young, a senior partner in a firm of City of London accountants, maintaining "we have not yielded to pressure from any quarter whatsoever".

The 12 governors include business people, academics and Lady Faulkner, widow of Brian (for whom the meeting was her last before her retirement). They are highly susceptible to government pressure because they are political appointees, receiving around £20,000 per year for their part-time work, and because the government decides the size of the licence fee — it recently refused to raise it in line with BBC requirements and is threatening to force the BBC to accept commercials.

The governors' craven capitulation produced a storm of protest, not just from expected quarters such as the National Union of Journalists and civil liberties bodies, but also from Labour MPs, former BBC director general Sir Hugh Greene (himself a former British propagandist during the colonial war in Malaya), who said the government "is running scared of the IRA", and even from some "counter-insurgency experts" who feared that such open political manipulation would make the BBC less credible to the public.

The issue was discussed on radio phone-ins up and down Britain and the far-sighted rushed to buy their souvenir edition of *Radio Times*, with three pages in colour on the banned film.

LESS POSITIVE

But after the initial flurry of concern, including a one-day protest strike by BBC journalists next Wednesday, the long-term effects may be less positive. The British government is interested not in suppressing one programme but in laying down the line to the television companies, both BBC and commercial, about the limits of the permissible.

The election of Sinn Féin representatives has given the broadcasters an opening — since 1979 they have been virtually forbidden to interview Sinn Féin spokespersons — and the government is anxious to close it.

Will the 'postponed' programme on 'supergrasses' ever go out?

Will BBC Scotland be allowed to go ahead with their *Open to Question* project in which Gerry Adams will be questioned by a group of teenagers?

Will the restrictions on programme-makers covering Ireland be tightened still further?

If so, as Martin McGuinness pointed out, the losers will be the British public, since they are the people whom the British government wishes to hoodwink.

BY DONAL LYONS

TWENTY cleaning workers, all ITGWU members employed by Contract Cleaners Ltd, have occupied offices in the administration building of University College Dublin (UCD).

Workers' spokesperson Nuala Ward told *AP/RN* that this course of action was undertaken to highlight the fact that 25 cleaners at UCD are losing their jobs because two other cleaning companies have taken over the contract in Belfield. Some of the cleaning staff involved have upwards of ten years' service at UCD. Contract Cleaners have failed to offer alternative employment.

Six of the workers were offered employment on the campus by International Cleaners Ltd, one of the new contractors, but with vastly disimproved working conditions. Instead of the current 9pm to 1am, four-hour shift they would have to work a 6am-9am, three-hour shift with no transport provided. The important point here is that by cutting the working week to 18 hours the contractors will now have to pay a considerably reduced PRSI rate, and workers will be eligible for occupational injury benefit only. As the law stands, part-time workers who are employed for 21 hours or over per week are entitled to claim full benefits including holiday, maternity and sickness pay.

The workers condemn the college authorities for putting the contract out to tender on the three-hour shift basis. An extremely aggressive attitude has been adopted by the same authorities towards the protesting workers. Repeated attempts have been made by security staff, led by the obnoxious security chief, Larry Kirwan, to break down the door of the occupied office. A garda presence has been maintained throughout the day in the building. In a gesture of solidarity bus crews on the No. 10 route which terminates on college grounds have refused to drive the buses onto the campus as long as the occupation continues.

The Students Union in Belfield are supporting the workers' action and in a statement say:

"This dispute is a further example of the effects of cutbacks in the College. We've had cutbacks denying people educational rights, and now employment rights."

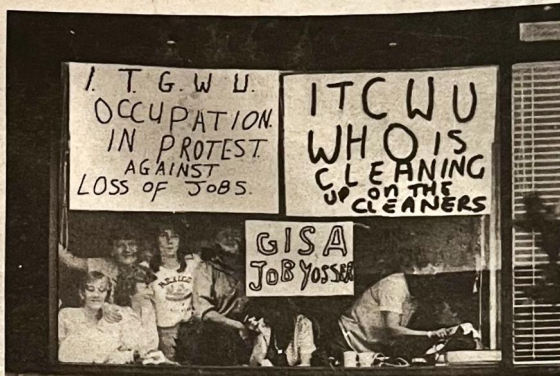
As we go to press the college authorities are seeking a High Court injunction to throw the workers out, but they say they are staying put until their demands are met. The Sinn Féin Trade Union Department is also supporting the occupation and point out that the much-vaunted Joint Labour Councils introduced in 1984 to protect the rights of contract employees has not worked. Insecurity of employment for workers in the cleaning trade must be ended.

Another occupation is in progress at Leyland Vehicles in Dublin's dock area where 19 workers have been occupying the premises since Thursday, July 25th. Workers committee representative Bill Shears told us they have taken this action to force the company to the negotiating table and to defend their jobs.

The dispute has its roots in a 1975 agreement with the company which guaranteed 30 jobs in the assembly area for as long as the company operated in Ireland. Last year, however, the company sought and achieved 8 voluntary redundancies, and also had the agreement altered to guarantee 22 jobs. This represented a major concession and gesture of goodwill from the men's union the ATGWU.

On Monday, July 22nd, the company issued a statement to all employees saying the company would close in September and all workers would be made redundant. They also stated that the company would continue its operations in a different form, but are refusing to disclose to either the workers or the ATGWU the exact nature of their plans. This is in clear breach of the 1975 agreement, and the workers have been left with no option but to take militant action. The strike committee feel that this could be a long occupation and are currently organising fund-raising activ-

DIRTY TRICKS



● Cleaning workers occupy offices in UCD



● Workers leaving the West Belfast glass factory

ies to help the dispute.

The two longest-running disputes in the Dublin area, McMahon & Nagle, and Prince O'Brien, are still continuing this week. In an incident last week, company director Nagle verbally abused the strikers and tore up placards outside the Portmarnock factory.

The Glynn family who run Prince O'Brien had partial success in their High Court action against their workforce. An injunction was granted to them restraining pickets to four per entrance. This move is obviously designed to block further mass pickets. They did, however, drop their affidavit claiming that a 'subversive' organisation was involved in the dispute.

The North's Department of Economic Development is in the process of doing a deal with the British strip mining corporation, Burnett and Hallamshire (B&H). It is envisaged that when the Town Gas System is closed this year, lignite will become a major source of local energy. It appears that there is a vast amount of lignite around and underneath Lough Neagh.

Local objections have been overruled by the NIO and B&H's attitude can

be gauged by the fact that their world-wide interests include mining in South Africa, and power-stations in the Philippines, Chile and Colombia.

Tá aonad le nócha leaba tar éis dúnadh in Ospidéal Naomh Uinseann i mBaile Átha Cliath. Tharla sé seo de bharr gearrtha siar i seirbhís sláinte an tSaor stáit. Tá an t-ospidéal ag súil go noscófar an aonad arís i mí Mheán Fómhair. Ní bheidh sé oscailte ansin ach ar feadh chúig lá sa seachtain d'othair gearrthéarma.

The liquidation of the double-glazing company, National Aluminium, has resulted in the loss of over 300 jobs in Dublin, Cork, Galway, Wexford, Dundalk and Athlone. When workers in the company's Wexford plant tried to cash their pay-cheques last week, the banks refused to honour them. The directors' high-handed attitude towards their workers was also practised on customers. Despite having no 'bonding' cover from the banks, they continued to collect deposits for work from the public. The position regarding the deposits of hundreds of home-owners is still unclear. The company owes the Revenue Commissioners

nearly £2 million and the state will have first call on realised assets.

Figures on industrial employment, earnings and hours worked issued by the Central Statistics Office show that in 1984 women on average earned £2.94 per hour compared with £4.35 per hour for men.

The NCB in Britain has returned record losses of £225 million for the year ended March 1985, and £1,750 million of this is directly attributable to the miners strike. Seventy million tonnes of coal production was also lost.

This announcement comes at a time when political pressure is mounting, even within the Tory Party, to dismiss NCB chairperson Ian McGregor. His £1.5 million fee is dependent on his performance up to and including 1986. The pressure is coming from Conservative strategists who feel that the bitter legacy of the miners strike has alienated whole sections of the working class. McGregor's attitude remains to be seen, but his public pronouncements of late leave no doubt of his intentions to axe a further 20,000 jobs in the coalfields.

Profit repatriation by foreign multinationals from the twenty-six-county economy is still running at over 55%. This confirmation of the failure to plug the 'black hole' has come from the IDA's chief economist John McMahon. It is estimated that over £1 billion will leave the economy in 1985.

The Dunnes Stores Strikers have re-applied for visas to enter South Africa. The 11 strikers have received an invitation from the South African Council of Churches to visit the country in October.

A support committee formed to coordinate solidarity action meets at 1pm on Saturdays in the IDATU hall, 9 Cavenish Row. All are welcome.

Brendan Archbold, the union official handling the dispute has said that the 'consumer boycott' policy espoused by the trade union movement has clearly failed, and has called for Congress to implement a 'worker boycott'. The immediate effect of such a move would be to stop the importation, distribution and sale of South African produce.

GPE Teoranta in Annagry, County Donegal is to close in September with the loss of 42 jobs. GPE was established in the late Sixties and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Údarás na Gaeltachta.

Dublin's Firemen have restarted their work-to-rule from Tuesday, July 30th. This action was suspended pending a Labour Court recommendation on the firemen's demand that proper staffing levels be maintained. However, the Corporation broke the agreement by insisting that firemen operate new working practices before the recommendation was issued.

At least half the 60 workers at the Heritage Crystal Company in West Belfast are to lose their jobs following the collapse of the US-based multi-national's marketing operations.

Since Heritage Crystal opened in 1982, it has received nearly £500,000 in British government grants. In a joint statement this week, the workforce angrily condemned the 'fly-by-night' activities of multi-nationals in the six counties, and described the Industrial Development Board's denials of responsibility for the redundancies as "totally unacceptable".

The workers also criticised senior ATGWU officials for concentrating their efforts on negotiating a partial 'rescue' plan to prevent total closures, instead of fighting to save all jobs. Those laid off had been left to "fend for themselves", the workers commented.

Under the 'rescue' plan now agreed, a 'new' company will be set up with further IDB grants of over £200,000, but with no guarantees of permanent employment for the remaining workforce.

Assassination bid in Lisburn

BY JANE PLUNKETT

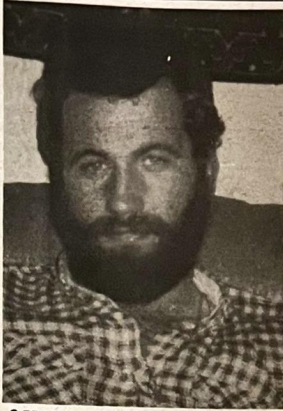
SINN FEIN has warned republicans and nationalists to be vigilant after a Portadown Sinn Fein member was shot and seriously wounded by a loyalist assassination squad in Lisburn on Monday, July 29th.

Frankie Tennyson was shot three times, in the neck, shoulder and leg, while working as a painter in the mainly loyalist Knockmore estate in the town.

Tennyson, aged 29, who is married with three children, was election agent for Craigavon Sinn Fein Councillor Brian McCann during last May's local elections. As such, his name was published in local newspapers. Another possible factor in the attack is that several weeks earlier, Tennyson's photograph appeared on the front page of the *Irish News*, when he was trying to protect local nationalists from the RUC prior to an Orange march through Portadown's Obins Street on Sunday, July 7th.

PRE-PLANNED

The evidently pre-planned murder bid took place shortly after 10.30am on Monday morning. Tennyson, one of six painters in the immediate area, was up a ladder painting when a long-haired man wearing a blue boiler suit and dark glasses, and carrying a handgun, approached. Having singled out his victim, the gunman opened



● FRANKIE TENNYSON

fire at Tennyson, who fell to the ground bleeding profusely. He suffered further injuries to his back and neck in the fall.

A workmate on a ladder nearby jumped down and fled for his life.

Tennyson's attacker made his escape in a brown Mazda waiting nearby, driven by another man. According to eyewitness-

es, the Mazda was followed from the estate by a second, silver-coloured car. Contrary to most media reports at least three loyalists were involved in the attack. The Mazda was found abandoned that night half a mile away behind lock-up garages.

Responsibility for the murder attempt was claimed by the so-called Ulster Freedom Fighters, the name of convenience under which the Ulster Defence Association has carried out scores of sectarian killings of Northern nationalists. The 'UFF' statement added the sinister threat that any republicans or "supporters" found working in loyalist areas would be "similarly dealt with".

Earlier on Monday, the London-based *Guardian* newspaper published an interview with UDA spokesperson John McMichael, in which he predicted a "campaign of attacks on prominent republicans... over the next six months or so".

BLAME

Condemning the shooting of Frank Tennyson, Sinn Fein spokespersons laid the blame firmly on recent warnings of "civil war" and "Protestant backlash" by unionist politicians, most notably Official Unionist leader James Molyneux and Ian Paisley of the DUP.

In a joint statement, Sinn Fein's Craigavon councillors, Brian McCann and Brendan Curran, described recent sectarian activities by unionist politicians as "ample

encouragement" to loyalist paramilitaries. McCann and Curran added:

"Over the past few weeks, local republicans and the nationalist population in general have been expecting an attack of some description from loyalists and we believe that this murder bid may herald the beginning of a new wave of sectarian attacks."

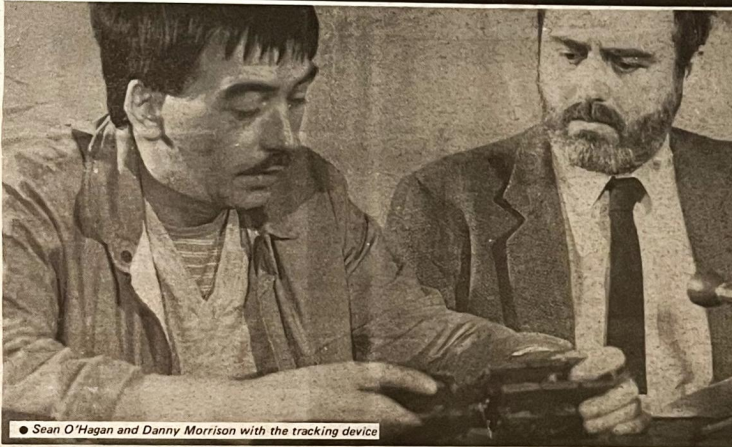
Workers intimidated

TWO West Belfast bricklayers lost their jobs on a Lisburn building site on Monday, July 29th, because of sectarian intimidation.

Frank Mallon, aged 22, who lives in Turf Lodge, and 25-year-old Stephen King from Andersonstown, who had started work on the site the previous Thursday, were told that their work was not up to standard. Both have five years' experience in the trade, and, according to Mallon, when they queried this reason, the foreman said:

"I've been told it's either you or me have to go."

Earlier, the two nationalists had been quizzed by another worker on the site about where they live in Belfast.



● Sean O'Hagan and Danny Morrison with the tracking device

Brit bug discovered

A sophisticated 'motion-sensing transmitter' or 'tracking' device was discovered two weeks ago under the car of Sean O'Hagan, aged 32, from Lisnahull, Dungannon.

At a press conference in West Belfast on Wednesday, July 31st, Sean O'Hagan and Danny Morrison, Sinn Fein elected representative for Mid-Ulster outlined how the device was discovered and how it worked.

O'Hagan, who is a well-known republican activist in Dungannon and has worked prominently through several recent Sinn Fein election campaigns, explained that he had noticed lately that his movements were being more closely monitored than ever before.

"I kept running into Brits and RUC uniformed and out-of-uniform patrols in the most unlikely of places. I pulled into

bomb. Then I saw the aerial on it and realised what it was. I took it to a solicitor who advised me that if I contacted the RUC they would take it away and that's the last I would hear of it. I decided to contact Danny Morrison and ask him to have it investigated."

Danny Morrison told the press conference that he had asked an electronics expert to check the device. His report described the object as a 'motion-sensing transmitter', consisting of two die-cast boxes. In box 1, six Swiss PP9 batteries were wired in parallel for maximum life. Box 2 consisted of a transmitter, an aerial and three Swiss PP9 batteries.

HIGH FREQUENCY

The device was held to the car by horseshoe-type magnets, sawed down so that their profile is shallow. The two boxes were sealed with special polystyrene and undersealed waterproofing. The underside screws were sealed with superglue so that the vibration of the car did not disturb them.

According to the electronics expert, the transmitter contained three integrated circuits and operated on a very high frequency. In-



● Danny Morrison dismantling the device

side are five glass beads with mercury-tilt sensing switches set at different angles. These would recognise when the car was starting, stopping, turning left or turning right and with each change would send out a different pulse. A fifth bead would initiate a different pulse signal if the transmitter was turned upside down.

Danny Morrison explained that there was no way to assess the range of the device nor when it was first attached to the car.

NUMEROUS OCCASIONS

Sean O'Hagan told the press conference that since he found

the device he has been stopped on numerous occasions by crown forces and that "half the Brits and RUC in Tyrone have checked under my car, obviously looking for the transmitter".

None of them mentioned it, however, apart from a former Brit called Boltwood, now an RUC sergeant, who stopped O'Hagan last Thursday, July 25th, and asked him where the device was. O'Hagan was then arrested and taken to Dungannon Barracks where Boltwood assaulted him. O'Hagan suffered severe bruising and a black eye from the beating.

LABOUR on the rocks

BY MARTIN MAC DIARMADA

THE DECLINING fortunes of the Free State Labour Party continued this week with an official announcement that the party general secretary Colm O Briain, is resigning his position.

This comes only a few days after a public opinion poll revealed that Labour support has dropped to 5% putting it below Sinn Féin and the Workers Party in terms of popular support.

O'Briain's resignation follows Labour's disastrous performance in the local government elections in June, and is a sign of the despair within Labour ranks that the promised re-vitalisation of the party simply isn't happening. The main factor influencing this demoralisation is Labour's continuing involvement in Coalition. Opposition to involvement with Fine Gael in Coalition is widespread within the trade union movement and some unions have threatened to disaffiliate from the Labour Party.

As traditional voting patterns break down, particularly in urban areas, Labour Party support is steadily dwindling. The party is

losing ground in all directions to Fianna Fáil, Sinn Féin and the Workers Party.

FALLEN BEHIND

Dublin in particular has witnessed widespread Labour party losses and this is most dramatically illustrated in the inner city. Once a stronghold for Labour, the party in the constituency has fallen behind independent Tony Gregory, Sinn Féin and the Workers Party.

Identified as it is with the reactionary Fine Gael, Labour is the least well-placed to win support from an increasingly disillusioned electorate, as was witnessed by the low 50% turnout at the local elections.

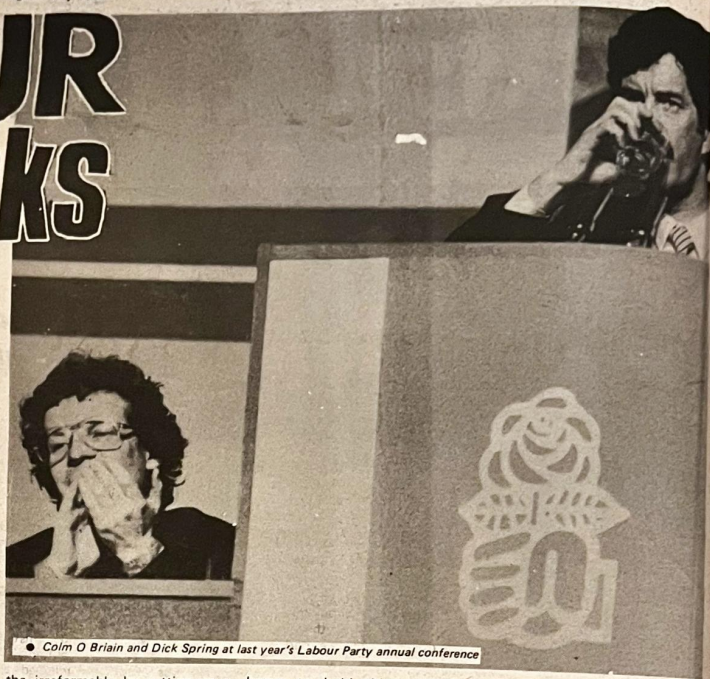
Labour's humiliation on that occasion, as with O'Briain's resignation, has been shrugged off by Dick Spring. He has postponed the task of pretending to reform

the irreformable by setting up a commission within the party to make recommendations on its future strategy.

By this delaying tactic he

hopes to hold things together until the commission reports in a year's time. Part of its brief, said Spring in a recent interview in the *Sunday Independent*, is to

"find a marketable brand of socialism", a phrase that typifies the hypocrisy of the party's sham socialism — in or out of Coalition.



Colm O Briain and Dick Spring at last year's Labour Party annual conference

Complaint follows Monaghan assault

BY JACK MADDEN

A FORMAL COMPLAINT has been lodged against five Monaghan-based gardai who broke into a house in Kieran Doherty Park last Saturday, July 27th, and assaulted one of the occupants, John Joe Coyle.

Coyle, and his wife Imelda, woke at 8.30am to find the five gardai standing in their bedroom. Knowing that he had locked the doors and windows the previous night, Coyle asked how they had got in. A garda replied:

"We had no difficulty getting in. We're the law."

When they announced that they inten-

ded to search the house, the gardai, who were led by Detectives Lynnam, Peoples and Gilroy, were asked to show their search-warrant. This they refused to do, offering instead a document which they claimed was a search-warrant.

Suspecting that the document was not valid, and angry at the break-in, Coyle insisted that he be shown the warrant. Again they refused, so Coyle grabbed at the piece of paper, part of which tore away in his hands.

Immediately the gardai 'laid into' Coyle, beating him over the head and body and attempting to drag him back into the bedroom. Imelda Coyle tried to get downstairs but one garda raised his fist threateningly at her, so she returned to

the bedroom and called from the window for help.

SMASHED

When a number of neighbours did arrive, they found that the gardai had forced Coyle's legs through bars in the upstairs banister and that they were still beating him in an attempt to retrieve the torn paper.

As neighbours gathered outside the house, the gardai stopped the attack and ran out of the house, taking a pair of Coyle's shoes with them and slamming the front door so hard that a pane of glass was smashed.

Following this incident, the same gardai were involved in further house-searches

in the same area. In each case, however, a garda inspector was brought along and the correct procedures were observed, in marked contrast to the raid on the Coyle's home.

On the advice of local Sinn Féin Councillors, Owen Smyth and Padraigh Uí Mhurchadha, Coyle sought legal advice and visited his local doctor who noted the injuries he had received.

Accompanied by Smyth and Uí Mhurchadha, Coyle went to Monaghan Garda Barracks and met Garda Inspector Murray. A formal statement of the assault was then made.

Owen Smyth has called for a full investigation into the incident.

Street-traders battle on

BY MARTIN Mac DIARMADA

IN the last week Dublin's street-traders have continued their campaign to retain their traditional right to sell their wares in the city centre.

On Friday, July 26th, the traders and their supporters marched to Mountjoy where three of the women are imprisoned for 'illegal' street-trading. A picket was placed on the jail while relatives and friends visited the imprisoned women.

On Saturday, July 27th, the street-traders collected signatures for a petition in support of their rights. There was a very good response from the public in the city centre, many of whom expressed their support and their anger at the vicious attacks on the women by the gardai earlier last week.

The petition was signed by the

Sinn Féin Ardchomhairle at its meeting on Saturday. Danny Morrison and John Joe McGirl presented the petition to the traders after the meeting.

Representatives of the street-traders, together with Sinn Féin Councillor Christy Burke and Deputy Tony Gregory met the auxiliary bishop of Dublin, James Kavanagh, on Monday last. The bishop expressed his concern at the treatment of the traders by the gardai.

Kavanagh is also due to meet Dublin Corporation and the City Centre Business Association — the vested interest whose pressure has brought about the victimisation of



the street-traders by the authorities.

REMANDED

On Tuesday a group of traders and three others, including Christy Burke, were further remanded until October 7th in Dublin Dis-

trict Court. They were appearing on charges arising out of last week's garda attack in the city centre.

It remains to be seen whether the considerable public support for the women is translated into political action by Dublin Cor-

poration, or whether they will continue to act exclusively in the interest of the city's big business lobby.

Either way the street-traders are determined to continue their campaign to maintain their livelihood.

CALLOUS ASSAULT BY RUC

BY NUALA DOHERTY

A YOUNG MAN was brutally assaulted by the RUC in front of his wife, mother-in-law and four-day-old baby in Dungannon last week.

The assault took place when Michael Bannon of Cronlowe, Dungannon, was returning home after collecting his wife and newborn baby from hospital. He was stopped by an RUC patrol on Quarry Lane at around 11.30am on Friday, July 26th, and told to get out and open the boot of his car.

This he did, closing it again after the RUC had looked inside. He was then ordered to leave the boot open, which he refused to do, explaining that as the car was a hatchback, he was afraid his wife or child would catch a chill.

The RUC were typically callous, telling Bannon that if he didn't re-open the boot, they would keep him, his wife and their baby on the road all day. Bannon then returned to his car, while an RUC man went off to Dungannon Barracks and brought

back an RUC sergeant called Boltwood.

Bannon tried to explain to him about the boot, but was told:

"I don't give a fuck about the youngster."

He and the other RUC men took off their flak-jackets and tried to remove Bannon forcibly from the car. When he held on to the steering wheel, refusing to move, he was punched, pulled and kicked until they managed to drag him onto the roadside.

In the confusion his mother-in-law managed to get away to find help. Bannon's wife was forced out of the car with the baby in her arms. Bannon said:

"Once out of the car the RUC continued to baton and kick me. I heard my wife in hysterics and saw her standing on the road with the baby. I was really worried about them."

• MICHAEL BANNON

By now semiconscious, Bannon was then forced into a police car and taken to Dungannon RUC Barracks. His car was driven there by one of the RUC, leaving Mrs Bannon on the roadside to make her way home with her new baby. Bannon was detained for a number of hours and interrogated by the sergeant and constable who had earlier assaulted him. He was eventually released and charged with assault, obstruction and resisting arrest.

Sinn Féin councillor for the area, Anita Cavan said:

"This particularly brutal assault is typical of RUC attacks in this area. The fact that several of the RUC men involved have a history



• PAUL MCGORAN & MICHAEL QUINN

of assaults on local nationalists proves once again that the RUC is an irreformably sectarian force."

WEST BELFAST ASSAULT

Four men and a woman were arrested, detained at Grosvenor Road RUC Barracks, and subsequently charged arising out of an incident in West Belfast on Friday, July 26th.

At around 1.00am two of the men, Paul McGoran (19) and Michael Quinn (21), both of St Catherine's Road, were standing at the junction of Rockmore Street and the Falls Road when they were approached by a foot-patrol and two RUC men. Their names were taken and they were told to stand away from each other. Michael Quinn was then pushed and shoved about by two RUC men. When he tried to defend himself, he was repeatedly hit with a baton.

Paul McGoran's brothers, Gerard and Thomas, witnessed what happened and tried to intervene. At this point one RUC man waved down a passing patrol and about 12 RUC men then joined in on the assault, wielding batons and boots. Quinn's sister Mary attempted to protest at her brother's treatment but she too was hit with a baton, thrown to the ground, and punched by an RUC man.

The five people were attacked again on their journey to Grosvenor Road. Paul McGoran was smashed in the eye with a baton, and needed five stitches. The others sustained numerous cuts and bruises. They were released, after being detained for four hours.

In an attempt to cover up the assault the RUC charged the five on a number of trumped-up counts, including obstruction, resisting arrest and assault.

BY JANE PLUNKETT

BELFAST Sinn Féin Councillor Alex Maskey has condemned recent RUC attempts to pressurise a West Belfast man into working for them as a paid informer.

Michael McNally, a former taxi-driver from Ladybrook area was arrested by the RUC in early June because of alleged driving offences and taken to Lisburn RUC Barracks. There, members of the RUC Special Branch attempted to pressurise him into working for them.

The RUC obviously believed that McNally's work as a taxi-driver, which he was expecting to return to shortly, was open to exploitation, and said they wanted him to "listen" to conversations and watch people

RUC blackmail attempt

around him. The RUC men said they would given him a code name and telephone numbers.

However, McNally firmly refused to cooperate and insisted on leaving.

Several days later, an RUC Special Branchman telephoned McNally at his home and intimidated him into agreeing to meet them in the car park facing Lisburn RUC Barracks. McNally had no intention of keeping the arrangement, and did not do so.

Subsequently, on July 20th, members

of the RUC called to McNally's home and left a message instructing him to go to Woodbourne RUC Barracks about the alleged motoring offences. There he was met by one of the RUC Special Branchmen who had attempted to recruit him in Lisburn Barracks. The RUC again demanded that he work for them, threatening that they would take away his PSV licence if he refused. The RUC said that if he agreed, they would drop the charges and pay him money regularly.

McNally again firmly refused and promptly contacted Sinn Féin.

Sinn Féin's Alex Maskey strongly condemned the RUC's actions, pointing out that they expose once again the lengths to which the sectarian RUC is forced to go to obtain even trivial information about nationalists, Maskey added:

"I would urge anyone else who is in a similar position to contact Sinn Féin immediately and help expose the criminal behaviour of the RUC."

Unionist councils exposed

BY JANE PLUNKETT

THE PRESENCE of Sinn Féin elected representatives in the North's council chambers continues to highlight and challenge the sectarian and anti-democratic nature of unionism.

At Monday night's meeting of Dungannon District Council, which has 11 unionist and 11 nationalist members, the OUP chairperson used his casting vote to rescind two motions passed at a meeting earlier in July when one of the unionist councillors failed to turn up.

Later in Monday's meeting, all the nationalist councillors walked out of the council chamber, in protest at the previous failure of the council clerk, a paid official, to act on the motions.

One of the resolutions had condemned strip-searching of women prisoners in Armagh Jail and the clerk had failed in his

obligation to inform British prisons minister Nicholas Scott of the council's decision. The clerk also ignored a council directive to invite the Chief Electoral Officer to its next meeting. This directive, contained in the controversial motion, related to the long-standing efforts of Independent Councillor Michael McLoughlin to investigate allegations of financial irregularities during the 1981 election campaign.

IGNORED

Withdrawing from the meeting, nationalist councillors pointed out that the clerk had ignored majority decisions democratically

taken by the council and had effectively acted as secretary to the unionist councillors only.

Earlier in the meeting, unionists had used the chair's casting vote to push through a resolution from loyalist-dominated Lisburn Council calling on district councils to "isolate" Sinn Féin elected representatives.

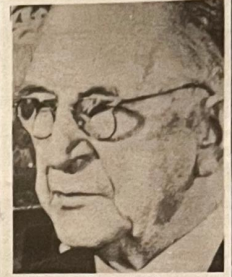
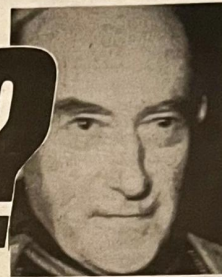
Meanwhile in Cookstown, where the unionists, unrestrained by their slim majority, have set up special committees in order to exclude Sinn Féin (the major nationalist party locally) from participating in council business, Sinn Féin's councillors boycotted the most recent committee meeting last Thursday, July 25th.

However, it is believed that this strategy is being revised and that besides regularly requisitioning full council meetings jointly with the SDLP, the four Sinn Féin members are also considering asserting their right to attend and speak at the various committees.



• Anti-strip-search directive ignored by Dungannon District Council clerk

twenty-six counties e interests?



● Rev John Charles McQuaid and Eamon de Valera, highly conservative influences, were both educated at Blackrock

had been content to play a mainly administrative role, was now forced to undertake major educational policy changes also.

In 1962, the Free State Department of Education in co-operation with the Organisation for Economic and Cultural Development initiated a comprehensive analysis of the education system. Its findings, published in 1966, were to have a profound effect on later educational developments.

Not surprisingly, the report found that participation rates above the primary level were woefully inadequate with high drop-out rates, especially in the vocational sector. More significantly, the report forecast that, unless remedial action was taken, there would be a shortfall of suitably educated people to fill the projected labour force for 1971.

IT was as a direct result of these findings that the free school transport and the so-called free education schemes were introduced in 1967.

The Sixties also saw other educational innovations. In an attempt to unify post-primary education a new type of school, the comprehensive, was established. The first three opened in 1966 and offered a combination of academic and practical subjects in one broad curriculum.

The same year saw the introduction of the Intermediate and Leaving Certificate to the vocational schools in an attempt to boost the standing of this sector. But old prejudices persist with vocational schools still being classified as 'second-rate secondary schools'.

In 1974 the first community school was opened. These schools were seen as a development of the comprehensive idea. Some of these have resulted in the amalgamation of already existing secondary and vocational schools. These schools also offer adult education and make their facilities available to the wider community.

Controversy has surrounded these schools, however, and the Vocational Education Committees have become alarmed that their traditional role in providing non-denominational education is being eroded in favour of denominational community schools. They also fear the Dublin government is trying to downgrade the power of the VECs to provide educational services. As a result the VECs have established

lished a number of community colleges which are similar to community schools but are under VEC management.

A GAIN, it should be stressed that these changes were introduced to aid the Dublin government's economic strategy. This does not imply that the content of a school curriculum should be divorced from the economic needs of a state. On the contrary there is a definite need for such a relationship.

But it is important to understand that the Dublin government's policy was only implemented in the interest of a certain section of the twenty-six-county population. That the working class might receive spin-off benefits was of little importance.

As it turned out, while participation rates and associated expenditure rose significantly following the introduction of the 'free education scheme', the benefits went disproportionately to the better off.

During the present decade, educational cutbacks have been widespread as the failure of the Dublin government's economic policy comes home to roost. As the recession deepens, and unemployment continues to rise, the Dublin government has become more selective about the type of educational investment which it will become involved in.

N EEDLESS to say, these cutbacks, such as those in school transport and career guidance teachers or the failure to implement proper teacher:pupil ratios, only serve to maximise the class bias which is inherent in the present education system.

But it would be a mistake to think that social equality can be achieved by improvements in the education system alone.

Social equality will only be achieved by the implementation of a planned and co-ordinated policy encompassing the whole range of social services including education, health, housing and social welfare.

As already mentioned it is not in the interests of the Dublin government, nor the class they represent, to implement such a policy.



tion per year

tor under its control. Instead they concentrated all their efforts at second level on the more academic secondary schools.

In 1930 the Free State government introduced the Vocational Education Act in an attempt to broaden the curricula of the then technical schools. Henceforth, these schools were to be referred to as vocational schools and, in addition to technical education, 'continuation' courses were now offered which would supplement an education received at first level. These schools were to be non-denominational and under local secular control in the form of Vocational Education Committees (VECs).

Surprisingly, the Catholic hierarchy tolerated this system, but only after they had received written assurances from the Dublin government that the education offered would not impinge on that given in the clerically controlled secondary schools.

BUT this type of school did have its critics. For instance, in 1941 the Rev E. Brennan raised the following objection:

"...many Vocational Scho-

ols are attended during the same hours by boys and girls indiscriminately, and there is co-instruction in the common or general subjects. From any point of view this is altogether undesirable. The practice is entirely against our Christian instincts and principles...

"No economic reason could justify the close association of boys and girls in schools during the period of adolescence. It is a form of naturalism that is not tolerated even in Nazi Germany."

The restricted education offered by the vocational schools and the attitude of the Church towards technical education combined to give Irish education a pronounced academic bias. But a number of other factors were also involved. These were outlined by Professor Dale Tussing in a 1978 report of the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI).

Tussing points out that the religious occupied a large number of teaching posts especially in the secondary schools. The curricula of these schools tended to reflect the literary and classical training of the clergy.

ALSO, prior to the 1960s the twenty-six-county economy was suffering the legacy of British colonialism, with both agriculture and industry chronically underdeveloped. However, banking, insurance and the civil service were well developed compared with the rest of the economy. As a result, there was little prospect of employment outside these areas.

Technical and scientific instruction was a low priority and parents preferred to send their children to the more academic secondary schools, giving more opportunities for further education and better job prospects.

Finally, and perhaps more understandably, academic as opposed to technical schooling was the least cost intensive form of education. In other words it was cheaper to teach Greek or Latin than Physics or Chemistry.

Tussing summarised the system as follows:

"It can be observed that the system was not developed for the purpose of economic growth. Neither was the

main function ever seen as preparing individuals for careers. Rather the major function of primary education, and for those who went to secondary education was religious, moral and intellectual."

A new departure came following the publication of the Dublin government's White Paper on Economic Expansion in 1958. That this economic policy was inevitably doomed to failure — because of (among other things) its total reliance on foreign multi-national investment — need not concern us here. What does concern us, however, is the extent to which this policy influenced educational developments.

Central to the plan was the introduction of new modern manufacturing industries. But the development of these industries, depended on a better educated work force.

Thus education came to be looked at in the context of a long-term economic investment. And the Dublin government, which, up to this point,



IRIS

Number 10

THE NEW ISSUE of IRIS the republican magazine is now available. In it Danny Morrison analyses the May local government election successes and the far-reaching consequences they will have on both London and Dublin.

On the international front there are interviews with Clyde Bellacourt of the American Indian Movement and Abdul Hay Mossallam, a Palestinian artist, with examples of his work linking the liberation struggles of the Palestinian and Irish peoples.

Also featured are the winning entries to the short story competition, contributions from four poets, book reviews, and a detailed review of IRA military operations from December '84.

IRIS No. 10 is available from the usual republican outlets at £1 Sterling or IRE £1.20.

Bodenstown video

MORE COPIES have become available of the video film *Bodenstown Sunday* — *The Legacy of Wolfe Tone* which was produced by the Sinn Féin Publicity Department.

This hour-long VHS video covers the history of the Republican Movement and the changes it has undergone as epitomised in the Bodenstown commemorations. Ideal for educational purposes, the film is available from:

Aine Nic Mhurchada, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin. Price £1 £15 and

Barbra de Brun, 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast. Price £12.



STOP strip-searches

New poster

STOP the Armagh Strip-Search Campaign Poster, A2 size, (black and white).

Cardboard Posters — 12 for £2
Paper Posters — 50 for £5
Leaflets — 1,000 for £5
Available from: SASSC, 44 Ceanóg Phárlain, BAC 1.
(Please order two weeks before they are needed).

mála poist

Myths

A Chara,

The letter that appeared in the July 18th *AP/RN* signed 'Vigilant Nationalist' alleged that there is a move away from the nationalist position to one of internationalism in the pages of *AP/RN*.

This is utter nonsense. Because a few articles are published in *AP/RN* about the struggles taking place in El Salvador etc, it does not mean that *AP/RN* has abandoned its basic policies or objectives.

It is morally correct for the Republican Movement, through *AP/RN*, to express its solidarity with people engaged in similar struggles to our own. Their success or failure will affect us all, and knowledge of their struggles will help us in our fight.

It is also important that the distortions and lies of the media are challenged and exposed. There are myths that the media are very fond of promoting — like 'a major factor of mass starvation is overpopulation', or 'trade unions are a major cause of unemployment', or 'women themselves encourage rape', and the popular one that freedom fighters are terrorists and criminals, a label that the IRA shares with freedom fighters everywhere.

Surely a vigilant nationalist should be the first person to realise the importance of articles appearing in *AP/RN* that expose these myths?

John Ffrench.

Other struggles

A Chara,

I would like to reply to a



BLINKERED VIEW

A Chara,

I wish to reply to 'Vigilant Nationalist' whose letter appeared in your issue of July 18th. On one point, I do agree with him — the Republican Movement indeed has more than enough on its plate. All other issues raised demonstrate a blinkered view of the struggle both here and in other oppressed countries.

As ably demonstrated by the IRA, the policy of overthrowing British rule has not been abandoned, indeed it has been escalated — witness Brighton, Newry, and the development of new weapons by the IRA.

On the political front he/she states that 55% of the people in the Free State support Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael. Nonsense! On June 20th less than 50% of the people in the state voted, and over 4% of those voted for Sinn Féin. The party increased its representation from 28 seats to 39, maintaining its position as the fourth largest party in the twenty-six county area.

On the international front, as revolutionaries we must recognise the fact that imperialism and fascism do not stop at borders. Imperialism is the most developed form of capitalism and as such must be fought in all its manifestations wherever it appears, be it Ireland, El Salvador or Africa.

It is the duty of republicans to forge links with the down-trodden and struggling peoples of other countries. In this way we will both broaden and strengthen our own struggle for freedom and, when victory is won, it will be a beacon for all who struggle.

Finally, the names of Bobby Sands and his comrades are known and revered throughout the oppressed world. Revolution knows no borders either, comrade.

Tommy Moore, Clondalkin.

country. I do not believe that *AP/RN* should be dedicated totally to reporting only our own struggle.

Because the paper is one of

the few republican publications that can be obtained, it has a big responsibility to republican people. It is essential that you continue with such articles as *World View* as well as highlighting the struggles of other guerrilla movements and elected governments throughout the world, i.e. the Sandinistas, the African National Congress, PLO, ETA etc.

If we were to rely solely on British media propaganda we would be led to believe that there are no other wars or liberation struggles occurring on this planet. *AP/RN* is doing an excellent job in educating republicans to the plight of other people who, like ourselves, are being oppressed, exploited and intimidated.

We must continue to give our support to and obtain the support of oppressed people throughout the world and through *AP/RN* we can go some way towards achieving this. Keep up the good work!

Paul Woods, Belfast.



Common enemy

A Chara,

Regarding the letter in *AP/RN* of July 18th from 'Vigilant Nationalist' on internationalism, perhaps a few comments in a comradely spirit would not be misplaced.

I feel it is naive to suggest that *AP/RN* is getting bogged down in the affairs of South

Africa, El Salvador, Palestine etc, any more than it would be to suggest that they are getting bogged down in Irish affairs by sending delegations to Ireland.

These exchanges are of immense benefit to peoples who face a common enemy and enhance the freedom struggle of the oppressed peoples concerned. Mar a del-tar 'ni neart go cur le cille'.

Regarding local elections and the contrasting results North and South and Free State-bashing in *AP/RN* being unproductive, one feels that this is not a realistic appraisal of the situation. The variations in the results are totally understandable given the occupied six counties and the twenty-six county neo-colonial state, with no visible occupying forces on the streets but a regime which props up the British presence in Ireland as a whole.

The Republican Movement is a relevant organisation but it cannot live in a vacuum. It draws its strength from the people and as such it must relate and present its policies as the only real alternative for the people of Ireland.

It is tantamount to defeatism to say that because 85% of people in the twenty-six counties support gombeen parties that one should not be involved in the process of changing that situation.

The British will not be wished out of the six counties — it will be achieved by the resistance of the republican and nationalist people. Similarly, the neo-colonial state in the twenty-six counties, which props up partition, will not be wished away. Sinn Féin must present itself to the people and make itself relevant and aware of the needs of the people.

O. de B., Sasana.

Indian women in Belfast

THE MANY PROBLEMS and struggles being tackled by women in post-colonial India were the main theme of an informative and thought-provoking public meeting in West Belfast on Saturday, July 27th.

The main speakers were Ruth Vanita and Madhu Kishwar, who described their work in the Delhi-based women's group which publishes the bi-monthly magazine *Manushi*.

The speakers gave examples of land and

employment disputes involving women and explained that these have frequently led to struggles on sexual discrimination (over land rights, equal pay and housework) and sexual violence. Many of the problems faced by Indian women are a legacy of British colonialism, Madhu Kishwar said, giving the example of forced evictions during the 19th century.

She pointed out that though women had won major legal reforms upon British withdrawal, in practice only a very small proportion

of women had benefited. Successive Indian governments have perpetuated the 'structures of laws, police and bureaucracy' imposed during British colonial rule.

The meeting, held in Conway Street Mill, was organised by the Feminist Book Fortnight Committee.

● *Manushi* is available, price £1 for a single copy (£8 for six issues), from Manushi Trust, C/1202 Lapjat Nagar, New Delhi 110024, India.

Political dismissal

BY MAIRIN MAC DIARMADA

A POLITICAL conspiracy, between the management committee of the North Offaly Co-op in Tullamore and the local Special Branch, resulted last month in the dismissal of Sinn Féin member Emmet Walsh from his position as general manager in the co-op.

The dismissal was for purely political motives with the management committee refusing to explain their decision. Walsh had helped to steer the

co-op back to financial security in the last couple of years.

The members of the co-op were incensed at the dismissal of Walsh and they called the first-ever extraordinary general meeting of the co-op to protest. At the meeting on July 16th the management committee refused to make any comment on their dismissal of Emmet Walsh.

OSTRACISED

Joe Kelly the chairperson of the management committee admitted that he had been ostracised by some people in the town after the sacking of Walsh and the co-op has also lost business. When

Emmet Walsh attempted to enter the meeting to speak, the management committee called the gardai to keep him out.

It has also been learned that Joe Kelly was in regular contact with members of the Special Branch. He requested them to keep Walsh under surveillance on his regular visits to Portlaoise Prison to see if he was making them during working hours, which he never did.

The management committee have refused to reverse their decision despite the widespread support for Emmet Walsh among the workers and members of the co-op.

Buíochas

THE staff of *AP/RN*, Dublin would like to thank Gretta Reel of Belfast for her generous gift of a TV. Go raibh mile maith agat.

Send on the clones

BY AINE MARTIN

NOW THAT the exhausted Leinster House deputies have gone home for a well-deserved summer break until October — when the rest of us will be scraping money together for Christmas — you might feel deserted.

But fear not, the eager young fledglings of the four Leinster House parties are waiting in the wings, ready to mouth the same old platitudes as their elders. And as the youth wings of Fine Gael, Fianna Fail, Labour and the Workers Party took the stage on last Thursday's *Today Tonight*.

The programme was a question-and-answer session between spokespersons of these groups and a crowd of secondary-school students from Skerries, County Dublin. The show was pathetic and predictable.

The Fine Gael spokesperson

began each of her answers by stating "Well, I don't want to sound like an apologist for the government" before going on to defend her elders' policies and managing to sound remarkably like an apologist for them.

The Ogra from Ogra Fianna Fail took down the rather tattered mantle of the Fianna Fail's interest in the North by stating that the troubles were putting a terrible strain on the Southern economy — especially, the tourist business. As for all the people who lose their lives because of the British presence

— well, none of them voted for Fianna Fail.

The Labour Youth representative gleefully stabbed the Coalition Junior partner in the back. And he stood up for the Concerned Desmond's sworn enemies!

And the Stick? Well, that was the best laugh of the night. Balding, bearded and bespectacled, the Workers Party 'youth' looked like he was pushing 35. He was also pushing the party line very strongly, including their work-sharing 'solution' to unemployment which he alleged would create 100,000 new jobs.

One student pointed out that this ploy had been tried in France where it created a total of 70,000 new jobs. France has a population of 60 million people.

It is worth remembering that none of these parties had a youth grouping before they discovered that the EEC doles out loads of cash to the youth wings of parties which are represented in state parliaments.

An interesting footnote to all this cropped up in Channel 4's *Irish Angle* last Sunday, in which the RTE programme was shown. Brian Farrell told his mainly British-based audience that no mention of Sinn Féin could be made on RTE because of Section 31. He went on to explain that, despite the fact that Sinn Féin has widespread and growing support among young people in the twenty-six counties, no spokesperson could appear in any RTE programme.

Farrell didn't mention this at the end of *Today Tonight*. Are Channel 4 demanding that he earn an honest buck with them? ...

There are a few programmes during the next week that shouldn't be missed:



• Martin McGuinness

The Black and White Media Show — BBC, Monday. A study of the racial stereotyping of black people in the British media. It should be relevant to the media attitude to Irish people as well.

Festival Folk — RTE, Friday. The second of two concerts by Christy Moore — they can keep U2, and all the rest, give us Christy.

Real Lives — BBC, Wednesday. Watch this space to see what the substitute will be for the programme featuring Derry's Martin McGuinness. The BBC bowed to political pressure and withdrew it.

book

The underground war

BY DANNY MORRISON

THIS INCREDIBLE ACCOUNT of how the Vietnamese People's Liberation Army (NLF) fought the US army and its puppets, the ARVN (South Vietnamese Army), from the underground tunnels of Cu Chi is a sure cure for any depressed guerrilla and would make compelling reading for any IRA Volunteer.

Although the authors — reporters Tom Mangold and John Penycate of BBC TV's *Panorama* and *Newsnight*, respectively — also cover the story of the tunnel war from the point of view of the 'Tunnel Rats' (the specialised US underground fighters), it is the story of the Vietnamese struggle which is the more human and fascinating.

There are biographies on several activists including a doctor who performed 'rain surgery with a mechanic's drill and carried out amputations without the use of anaesthetics. Although some patients died of shock, the alternative to operating was an agonising death in the dark from haemorrhaging or gangrene. Surgical instruments were often made from parts of downed helicopters, stitches were made from enemy parachute nylon, and blood transfusions were made up of recycled spilled blood.

Another chapter details the activities of Vo Thi Mo, a young woman, whose

considerable guerrilla activities began at the age of 15 after her village was ransacked. Many guerrillas fought from below ground for periods of up to five years.

CU CHI

The tunnels of Cu Chi were the most complex part of a network that stretched from the outskirts of Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) to the border with Kampuchea (Cambodia). Around one village alone there were eight miles of underground tunnels. Tunnel warfare was not new to this part of the continent as the Chinese had fought the Japanese from below the ground, as the Viet Minh had, against the French — the precursors of the US forces.

The tunnels re-evolved as the natural response of a poorly equipped and mainly local guerrilla army to the US's aerial bombings, artillery fire and chemical warfare.

The resourcefulness and ingenuity of the Vietnamese people was incredible. They turned Coca-Cola tins through

away by the soldiers into grenade casings, made shoes out of beldy truck tyres, hammocks out of US parachutes, and ate discarded food (though eventually they had to live on rats).

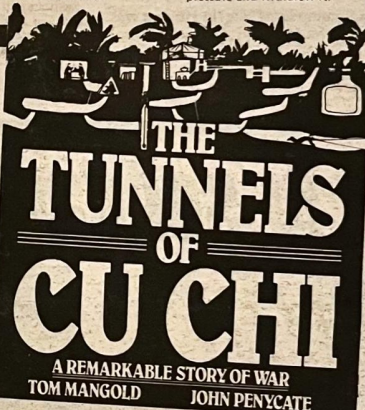
Until a fairly later stage in the war their weapons and equipment tended to be stolen, homemade or improvised. For example, inside pitfalls they built punil stakes (razor-sharp bamboo spikes covered with excrement to aid infection), which were strong enough to pierce through the soles of boots, and placed others at angles to prevent the leg being withdrawn.

Other booby-traps were made out of whips with fish-hooks and rats, bats, spiders, scorpions and bees were used (sometimes trained) against any advancing GI 'Tunnel Rats'.

ENEMY

They watched 852 bombing raids and saved through the casings of unexploded bombs, extracting TNT and detonators which they then manufactured into landmines for use against the enemy. One guerrilla said: "The Americans used their weapons to fight us and we used their weapons to fight back."

When the Americans and their ARVN colleagues did manage to totally unearth a complex, they were amazed



at what they found — hospitals, headquarters, storage depots, printing presses, armaments factories and even cinemas.

In the tunnel they found a complete USmm field-artillery howitzer, stripped and ailed, ready for action. In another tunnel was found a US M-48 tank which had been stolen and buried in the labyrinth.

RESOLVE

Life below ground was extremely harsh. People suffered from malnutrition and half of any NLF unit had malaria, and most had dysentery, fungal skin infections and intestinal parasites. There were more bombs dropped on Vietnam than during the whole of World War II and although

eventually the Americans perfected techniques for destroying the tunnels — by destroying the ecology of the countryside — it was too late.

The resolve of the Vietnamese people to continue to victory was unshakable because they were confident of the justice of their cause and they knew that time was on their side.

From their endurance and hardships we can certainly draw great strength and encouragement. The aspect of their struggle as detailed in this book is certainly a remarkable story of a people's war.

• *The Tunnels of Cu Chi* by Tom Mangold and John Penycate is published by Hodder & Stoughton, Price £12.95 (Stg) hardback.

peace, of courage and hope. But all their whining and all their whining couldn't disguise the fact that this was what all those thousands of people had come for. There was sadness in the air as the Wolfe Tones sang their new song about John Downes ("dedicated to all the people who have been murdered by plastic bullets in the North"). But our sadness turned to joy with an American once again, Sean South from Garryowen and *Rack on Rack*.

It was great! Siamis this year was really just one big Wolfe Tones concert. Shortly after Kris Kristofferson began, a steady drizzle of people started to leave, so that by

the time he was finished the stands were only a third full.

The organisers put him at the top of the bill. Perhaps they thought that an Irish group or singer wouldn't draw the crowds, or appear as impressive. The crowd thought otherwise. A Christy Moore-less Siamis is really only half a Siamis, and the GAA would do well to think seriously about dropping the likes of Loudon Wainwright III, Kris Kristofferson and Ford (their sponsors to the tune of £35,000, who pulled out of Cork last year, throwing hundreds on to the dole) and featuring more Irish groups.

Still and all, it was great crack.

music

Siamsa Cois Laoi

BY ERIC McALLISTER

DUBLIN, Belfast, Cork and Donegal, we were all on the one road to Páirc Uí Chaoimh last Sunday for Siamsa Cois Laoi, Cork GAA's annual money-spinning concert.

Six hours of Cornhalas Ceoldir Eileann, Stockton's Wing, Loudon Wainwright III, the Wolfe Tones and Kris Kristofferson saved the musical appetites of all.

The Cornhalas group were excellent, and performed with all the professionalism and enthusiasm we have come to expect of them.

Wainwright III.

HELLUVA SIGHT

Then it was 'Spot the Young Fine Gaeler' time. A helluva sight it was too — 40,000 young people jumping for joy with the Wolfe Tones and roaring out *The Boys of the Old Brigade*, and they all knew the words.

The reviews of the Siamis in the daily newspapers on Monday whinged and whined about the rebel songs they sang — songs of protest and struggle, of freedom and

Imeachtaí

KIERAN DOHERTY COMMEMORATION & SOCIAL EVENING
Music by Tara
8.30pm Friday 2nd August
Farnham Arms Hotel
CAVAN
Taillie E3

BALLAD SESSION
Featuring Dublin Blackthorn
9pm Friday 2nd August
The Lintoree
DUNBOYNE
County Dublin
Taillie E1

BALLAD SESSION
Featuring Latch
9pm Saturday 3rd August
Cassidy's Lounge
COLLON
County Louth
Taillie E1
Organised by Sinn Féin

AERIOCHT
2.30pm Sunday 4th August
Lough Crew, Oldcastle
COUNTY MEATH
Organised by local Sinn Féin cumann

IRISH NIGHT
Featuring Darcy
8.30pm Monday 5th August
Border Inn
NEWRY ROAD
County Louth
Taillie E2

VIDEO SHOW AND FOLK NIGHT
'Plastic Bullets — The Deadly Truth'
Music by Skin the Goat
8pm Wednesday August 7th
An Sean Mhúileann
BELFAST

STOP STRIP-SEARCHES VIGIL
5.6pm Friday 9th August
O'CONNELL BRIDGE
Dublin
(Start at prisoners week)
Organised by Tallaght Stop Strip-Search Committee

ANTI-INTERMENT DEMONSTRATION/MARCH
7pm Friday 9th August
NEWRY
All banners and bands welcome

FUNCTION
Featuring Paddy's Return
Friday 9th August
Commercial Hotel
BALLINAMORE
County Leitrim
Organised by Sinn Féin

14th ANNIVERSARY OF INTERMENT FUNCTION
Music by Ragamuffin
8pm Friday 9th August
Sunnysbank Inn
BRAY

County Wicklow
Speaker: Ex-internee
Taillie E1
Organised by Sinn Féin

REPUBLICAN STALL
10th-12th August
Puck Fair
THE SQUARE
KILLORLGIN
County Kerry

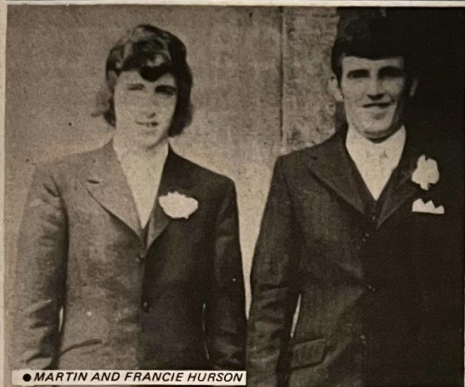
SOCIAL EVENING
Featuring Tara Folk
8.30pm Thursday 15th August
Town Hall
NEWRY
Taillie E2

1986 Diary

The Sinn Féin Publicity Department is presently preparing the 1986 Republican Diary and is seeking any comments or suggestions for improvements to this increasingly popular publication. Last year 7,000 copies were sold and it is hoped that 10,000-12,000 copies of the 1986 edition will be sold when it becomes available at the Ard Fheis.

Any suggestions (or corrections) or new ideas — for example, additions to the book list — should be sent to:

Danny Morrison, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin, or 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast.



● MARTIN AND FRANCIE HURSON

Martin Hurson honoured

A FUNCTION to honour the memory of Martin Hurson was held on Sunday, July 21st, in the Mostrim Arms, Mostrim, County Longford.

Republicans from all over the Longford were joined by members and friends of the Hurson family from County Tyrone. The wife and daughter of the late Francie Hurson, Martin's bro-

ther, were there as was another brother Brendan and his three daughters, who sang and played the tin whistle.

The main speaker was Seamas Kerr, Sinn Fein chairperson of Omagh District Council, and, speaking in Irish, he told the crowd that his first visit to Longford was during the elections of 1981 when Martin Hurson was an H-Block candidate for the area.

SACRIFICE

He went on to outline the reasons why the hunger-strikers had died and why others were prepared to sacrifice their lives and freedom in the republican cause, and drew similarities between the 1916 Rising and the struggle today.

Comparing the media of then and today, he said that the willingness of the media to pander to the British was clear for all to see. Kerr condemned Section 31 of the twenty-six-counties' Broadcasting Act and pointed out that it existed to promote the "salaried positions of politicians". He ended by saying that the only fitting monument to Martin Hurson and his comrades was a free independent Ireland.

Sean Lynch of Longford Sinn Fein closed the evening thanking everyone who attended, particularly the people from Tyrone, and promised continued support from Longford for the national cause.

Youth in solidarity

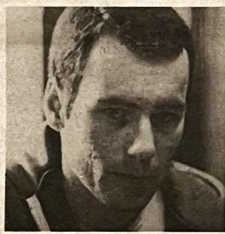
AN International Youth Camp was held in Barbaste, France from July 21st to 28th and was attended by 700 young people representing 22 different countries, including El Salvador, Euskadi, Kanaky (the French colony of New Caledonia), Mexico, Brazil and Ireland.

Each day, workshops took place on specific issues such as women's affairs, the ecology and nuclear disarmament as well as discussions of the general political situation in the countries represented.

On Thursday, July 25th, a Sinn Fein representative took part in a workshop on national liberation struggles, where the colonial nature of British involvement in Ireland was discussed and support was pledged by

delegates from other countries for the campaigns against show-trials, plastic bullets etc.

A mass rally closed the camp on Saturday, July 27th, and Sinn Fein's Padraic Wilson shared a platform with representatives from FSLN of El Salvador and the Kanak Socialist Liberation Front. A letter of solidarity from the Sandinista Youth of Nicaragua was read out.



● PADRAIC WILSON

Because of their unsuitability for the rigours of the voyage and the insanitary and over-crowded conditions on board, these vessels became known as 'coffin ships'.

APPALLING

Conditions were appalling. The English vessels were generally inferior to American ships as the US Passenger Acts were strictly enforced. On the English ships there was over-crowding, primitive or even non-existent sanitary conditions, a limited supply of fresh water and poor food. Diseases such as cholera and Typhus were rampant, and many of the emigrants died during the long voyages. In 1847, of the passengers on board two ships bound for Quebec, Canada, 108 died on the *Larch* and 158 on the *Virginus*.

One of the 'coffin ships' to arrive in Quebec at the end of July 1847, was a small brig from Dublin carrying over one hundred passengers. During the nine-week voyage, fever soon broke out and by June 27th half of the emigrants on board had died.

Finally on July 25th the ship anchored off Grosse Isle, the immigration sickness centre on the Saint Lawrence River at Quebec, the destination of almost all the 'coffin ships'. Several of the sick died before they were unloaded for the Grosse Isle Hospital on August 1st, 1847.

During 1847 alone, of the 109,680 immigrants who landed on Grosse Isle, 5,424 died and were buried in the cemetery there. Double that number died at sea. There is no record of how many died travelling to other parts of Canada, or crossing into the United States, but it is estimated that only half of those who started out survived.

REMEMBERING THE PAST



Coffin ships

BY PETER O'ROURKE

IN the ten years from 1845 to 1855 an estimated two million people emigrated from Ireland. Many travelled in over-crowded ships, known as 'coffin ships', and tens of thousands were never to reach their destination.

At the height of the famine in 1847, emigration to America, Canada, England, Australia and New Zealand was seen by many Irish people as the only way to escape the poverty, eviction, starvation and disease at home.

Large numbers of emigrants sailed directly from Irish ports, while others had to withstand the steamer trip to the English ports of Liverpool and London before beginning their long

trans-Atlantic journey. Because of the English government's unwillingness to enforce the Passenger Acts, governing the treatment of emigrants, speculators were attracted to the lucrative Irish passenger trade. All types of ships, some little more than floating hulks, were employed on Atlantic crossings. Many of these ships foundered with the loss of all on board.

WORLD VIEW



● The Hunosa mine in northern Spain

Spain

IN an important move towards equality, Spanish women will win the right to work underground in coal-mines, the first to do so in Western Europe since the turn of the century.

The women have been fighting a long battle against discrimination in the Asturias region of Spain. A key component of this fight has been the involvement of the Spanish Women's Institute, who took up the case after one woman had been rejected by the Hunosa mining company. The Women's Institute fought the case on the grounds that the Spanish constitution prohibits sex discrimination.

The women have run into a barrage of criticism, mainly from three sections — politicians, the media and not surprisingly the trade unions.

The General Workers Union (UGT), which organises the all-male workforce of the Hunosa mine, has not publicly opposed the introduction of women to the mines, (there were 1,200 women miners in 1909), but they are saying that they do not have provisions to protect women in mining.

This is an obvious show of male disapproval, using the old ploy of the 'weaker sex' to cover their objections to women working in mines. An example of this attitude was illustrated by a leader of the UGT, Medecia Tino, who declared:

"I have seen many men not last 15 days in the mine — it is not that we are against allowing women access to any kind of job, but we all know that they are not going to be able to work in the mines."

In a very weak statement the UGT has called on the Spanish parliament to introduce legislation to "protect women in mines" before

allowing them to work underground.

The Spanish media have been vilifying a number of the women who have been fighting for jobs. They have accused the women of stealing work from the men and have even published local gossip about them (especially those without husbands).

One woman, Ana Isabel Lopez, stated:

"Those who criticise me are not going to come and give me a home. They say I am taking a job from the father of a family, but I have a 12-year-old daughter to provide for too."

Another woman, the daughter of a miner killed at the Hunosa mine, declared:

"If I were a man I would have been hired without any problem since it is the practice to hire the children of miners who are killed in mining accidents."

The politicians have been citing Spain's ratification of the European Social Charter which prohibits women working in mines as basis for their objections.

Spain's leading women's magazine *La Mujer Feminista* has declared itself strongly in favour of women miners. The magazine says that daughters and wives of miners should have the right to work in the mines if they wish.

The magazine further states that to argue that mining is too hard for women is to ignore the role that women play in agriculture and industry, where work is sometimes even harder than in mining.

OAU

IN a strong statement of support for the African national liberation organisations South West African Peoples Organisation (SWAPO) and the African National Congress (ANC), Peter Onu, secretary general of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), called for the intensification of armed struggle as the only way forward against the racist South African regime.

Peter Onu was addressing a meeting of representatives of 49 African nations, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in July to discuss the present crisis in the African continent, including the struggles in Namibia and South Africa against the Pretoria regime. During his address, Onu stated:

"We are all witnesses to the agonising plight of the oppressed people of Namibia, whose fate and destiny are being toyed with on the altar of strategic considerations — the racist Pretoria regime and its fellow-travellers will not dare play jokes with the destiny of our people if the armed struggle is intensified and sustained."

Onu called on all the 49 nations

present to throw their full weight behind the two struggles. He also called on them to fulfil their financial commitments to the OAU's liberation committee. Thirty-three countries, out of a total membership of fifty, are in arrears.

Onu stated that \$33million have so far been paid into the OAU this year from the African countries whilst Norway alone has contributed \$5million.

Onu demanded that the member countries make stronger efforts to supply the ANC and SWAPO with much-needed money and materials to intensify the armed struggle.

"No-one is under any illusions about the viability and efficiency of this option, even though it is costly."

The Liam Óg Column

The Fall-Guy

YES, RUC officer Rodney Dunwitty you have passed the screen test for *The Fall-Guy* after last Sunday morning's brilliant demonstration of fast driving along Belfast's Springfield Road, writing off two stationary vehicles and, in the process, mounting the footpath to cause structural damage to dwelling No.62.

Rod came out of Grosvenor Road Barracks at around 7am, sped through the lights at the Falls Road junction before cross-winds and turbulence disturbed his flight path.

Flowers should be sent to Ward 4, Security Wing A-Block, Royal Victoria Hospital, to help Rod overcome the psychological trauma of the loss of his hard-earned brand-new Toyota Corolla.

WORK this out. Answer guilty of driving at 111mph at the end of page. and is fined £30.

Scene: Dungannon Courthouse. Sean McAnallen is found guilty of driving at 62mph and is fined £40.

LAST week the RUC, who had previously banned a similar Orange march, allowed a parade through the nationalist town of Castlederg on the spurious grounds that the 16-band triumphalist parade was really only a 'style and appearance' procession.

In strong competition for the use of euphemisms comes Tyrone Sinn Féin Councillor Charlie McHugh. He described a provocative loyalist band march through Castlederg, which was allegedly a charity fund-raiser for the town's hospital, as a "sick parade".

Besides kicking the Pope several dozen times, breaking windows and wind, giving a drunken rendition of 'God Save the Queen', and publicly relieving themselves in several flower beds, a large number of participants were quite ill and left the contents of that day's imbibitions and gormandising over a considerable area of road and pavement in Ferguson Crescent, much to the disquiet of pedestrians and road users alike.

NO explanation was given of deception at Armagh Magistrates Court. Constable Isaiah Carey I suppose he was pretending to be a peace-acker, Derry, on a charge.

ANDY Warhol found it easier to get on television than Sinn Féin's Martin McGuinness who was described by one English tabloid this week as "widely thought to be one of Northern Ireland's most prominent and practising non-pacifists."

Best-selling and intellectually non-taxing author Jack Higgins also includes the Derry representative in his latest novel *Confessional*. At one point in the book Higgins has McGuinness suavely advising a visitor to try the *Duck à l'Orange* in a restaurant.

When contacted this week the Art Garfunkel look-alike said:

"Quelle blague! Des mon jour, mucker, les restaurants etaient au grand air et les Mec Apprentis restaient les têtes baissées."

Translation: "Nonsense! Restaurants in my day, mon ami, were open-air and the Apprentice Boys kept their heads down."

VARIATION on Denise LaSalle's Top Twenty hit heard being sung this week on the Dunne's Stores anti-apartheid picket line: Don't mess with Bishop Tutu.



● And in future, Charlie, stay out of Crossmaglen

EGG on the face for the late president of the USA, 'Mummy' Ronald Reagan, whose administration recently claimed that Sandinista agents were planning to bump off US diplomats in Honduras and Costa Rica beginning this week.

A defector from a right-wing terrorist group has now revealed how the group, sponsored by the CIA, planned to blame Nicaragua for bombing the US embassies in Honduras and Costa Rica, and for assassinating the Costa Rican president and senior diplomats. The intention was to provoke US military reprisals against, and a possible invasion of, Nicaragua.

However, despite the revelations, the CIA appear determined to pursue their terrorist plans.

"You see," said US officials, "the defector from the right-wing CIA-sponsored terrorist group is really a Sandinista who has given the interview in a crafty effort by Managua to establish a prior disclaimer for their activities."

Oh, that explains everything, Mr President.

FROM Dublin to the Caribbean it seems that street-traders have it hard. The *Caribbean Times* of July 26th reports an attack on 'side-walk vendors' in St Georges, Grenada, by local police backed by the CIA-

trained Special Services Unit, who set upon the street-traders and confiscated their goods. Apparently the authorities objected to the traders using their traditional site in front of an insurance company building.

A Migraine Unit has been set up by the RUC's Police

Authority to monitor stress-related problems experienced by its members, and to spot suicidal officers before they give themselves sore heads with their legally-held firearms.

News of the special units was released following an expression of alarm by Belfast Coroner James Elliot about anxiety inside the RUC, particularly those members in Woodbourne Barracks, West Belfast. He had been commenting on the death of a 38-year-old officer who killed himself last December.

"Romance problems have been one of the main causes of the suicides," said one policeman, who was not laughing and whose lot was not happy.

Privately, if I were them, I would be more inclined to be worried about aeronautical gas cylinders bearing crystallised fertiliser...

Dúirt siad

"If a man can be a successful election candidate, why on earth should he be banned from television?" — Guardian editorial on Martin McGuinness.

"In 65 years of broadcasting the government has never interfered seriously with broadcasting to the extent that is now being talked about."

— BBC Controller in the North, James Hawthorne, before the announcement of the McGuinness ban.

"Young Catholics should not consider being stopped and searched as provocative. If they had the proper spiritual and political leadership then they would want to bring peace to the community."

— Armagh Official Unionist Councillor John Doogan.

"A new understanding, the idea of marriage as a provisional commitment, which may be terminated if it is found not to work, is being fostered and given respectability by the state."

— Catholic Archbishop of Dublin, Dr McNamara, opposing the suggestion of civil divorce in the Free State.

"There's only one way to smash Sinn Féin — shoot them."

— George Seawright after the attempted murder bid on Sinn Féin election agent Frankie Tennyson.

"The Belfast business community was yesterday facing the grim fact that city centre bombings are once again a reality."

— Belfast Newsletter.

"Despite what people think, Margaret Thatcher did not win over the hunger-strikes. The IRA won because of the deep emotional effect on the nationalist community."

— John McMichael, UDA leader.

"It should not be forgotten that Budapest is in a communist country, dominated by Russia... a visit by democratic people could spread the spark of freedom in that country."

— Sean Treacy, Labour Party alderman and deputy, justifying a Clonmel Corporation decision to send half its members to a housing conference in Hungary in October at an estimated cost of £1,700 each.

"On the British side one of the advantages of an agreement which was endorsed by the SDLP would be the driving of a wedge between the party and Sinn Féin, and probably an end to any de facto alliances or pacts at local level."

— Sunday Tribune on the London-Dublin talks.

"I don't care if they kill me now or later. It will not make any difference. There are many of us. We shall be free."

— Black youth in the Transvaal, South Africa.

ANSWER: Smith is a British soldier stationed at Derry's Ebrington Barracks. McAnallen is a nationalist.

