

THE UNITED IRISHMAN

AN t-EIREANNACH AONTAITHE

Aibrean (April) 1970, Iml. XXIV. Uimhir 4. Luach 9d. (U.S. and Canada 25c.)



The mask is down as far as British troops in the North are concerned. The use of "snatch-squads", and the injection of the sectarian Royal Scots regiment into flash-point areas in Belfast show the policy line being pursued by the political mentors of the British troops in the North. The "saviours" of the people are now well on their way to being recognised for what they are — temporary replacements for the sectarian R.U.C. and B-Specials, while Britain gives a hurried face-lift to the latter force and re-christens it the Ulster Defence Regiment.

Britain, in fact, is willing to offer the oppressed minority in the North any combination or permutation of repressive laws, police forces or military cocktails scraped up around the Empire — anything or everything, except their simple demands for Civil Rights. Because granting Civil Rights will bring them face to face with the monster of their own creation — the fanatical Unionist Party.

And so they engage in propaganda exercises designed to misrepresent the struggle in the North as one between rival religious groups while they

● The photographs show the British military "snatch-squad" in action. A group of specially picked soldiers, numbering 12 or 14, dash into a crowd of demonstrators, drag out some person at random and run for it (below). Batons and boots are freely used.

Next morning the unfortunate victim is sentenced or jailed by a Unionist judge for getting caught.

The principle of the operation is to spread terror by example and force people off the streets.

Another gift from the armoury of British civilisation for the oppressed minority in the North. Anything but Civil Rights, it seems.

rebuild a slightly modified code and system of oppression to support their partition of Ireland and their exploitation of the Irish people north and south of their border.

Roy Hattersley, British Minister for Defence Administration, arrived to inaugurate the Ulster

Defence Regiment, the 6,000 strong disguised B-Special force, intended to relieve the British troops of their duties when the North has returned to Unionist normal. Irish voters in his Birmingham constituency should remember this for him next time out.

The task of the Civil Rights Movement now is to keep up the pressure without allowing any demonstrations disintegrate into religious faction fights. The success of the Republican Easter parades shows that demonstrations, well stewarded, may again be embarked upon to remind Westminster that it has the power to legislate for Civil Rights over the head of Stormont should Stormont continue to prevaricate.

The campaign for signatures supporting the Civil Rights demands must be advanced in all areas of the North. The abolition of the Special Powers Act and the Flags and Emblems Act should get top priority. Freedom of political association and expression will not be possible until these laws are abolished.



letters to the editor

Women

Dear Sir,

I was in for a shock last February when I read the *United Irishman*, the supposed voice of the Irish liberation struggle, and saw the blatant support given to the attitude of male supremacy which is rampant throughout Ireland. One would have expected the *United Irishman* to have taken a more progressive attitude than that shown on page 11 in the reference to "talented delegates". There is no indication of what exactly their particular talent happens to be. There is no explanation of what contribution the young ladies made to the conference, what they had to say there or what role they play in the movement. The implication appears to be that they are talented because they happen to have legs. Well, most human beings have legs and we don't usually consider that a talent. Perhaps the implication might also be made that the U.I. is grasping for new issues to present to its readers and is offering sex as one of the livelier topics available.

I am sure these ladies are very able and talented, but your newspaper doesn't have the same confidence in your Irish women. The U.I. should make an apology to the women of Ireland and should begin to play a more constructive role in changing the subordinate position of females in Irish life. The U.I. should pay attention to the active women who can play a major role in the Republican movement. If the women are now active, one would never know it from reading the *United Irishman*.

There will be no real change in Ireland until the men of Ireland rid themselves of the racist attitudes they hold towards women, and until the women of Ireland become more than tea-makers and sex objects. The Republican movement can make an important contribution to that revolution, if it takes determined steps now.

Sincerely,

Joan McKiernan, Department of Political Science, Brooklyn College of The City University of New York, Brooklyn 10, New York.

Wales

Dear Sir,

I take this opportunity to write to your fellow paper to express my sincere gratitude to you for being the only paper to write the truth whilst I was held in Crown custody as a political prisoner during the show trial which was staged by the forces of tyranny in their attempt to intimidate

the people of Wales last year. Also my thanks to the kind people in Ireland who raised a fund for our dependents when some of us were subsequently jailed in accordance with the instructions of the London Government.

Words cannot express my feelings during the long months of solitary confinement and systematic ill-treatment to know that our friends had not forgotten us. All honour to Joe Clarke, that gallant old soldier of freedom who kept in touch with me constantly during the 33 days I was in the dock. The forces of the Crown have ever relied on the gallows and the dungeon to crush freedom, they and their mockery of justice failed all over the world, and despite the fact that they have bestowed the OBE on their Gestapo thug Jock Wilton, they have failed miserably in Wales.

Yours faithfully,

J. Cayo-Evans (EWA), Glandens, Lampeter, Cardiganshire, Wales.

Prison

Extracts from a letter written by Pat O'Sullivan from prison in Chelmsford Essex: 11-3-70.

"I am doing my best to keep up to date on all the protests on our behalf and there are so many, I can't. One day last week, I think it was a Wednesday, I was watching BBC-2 TV at 7.30 p.m. when the news-caster read out that the BEA buildings were taken over by a group of young people as a protest against the imprisonment of Irish political prisoners in English jails. Of course, I was not the only one watching the rest of the lads were also looking on and a great big cheer went up. My face went as red as my hair and I did not know where to put myself. Now they are betting on when I will be released. One twist is fool enough to say next month!"

"As you can see from the top of the letter, I have a new address. Just to fill in, on the 6th of February Conor was moved to Wakefield Prison. On the 20 February (two weeks later) I was moved to the prison that I am now at. It is a 'security wing' that I am in. (A Wing) and a world of its own. TV cameras everywhere and everything worked by remote control. Only eight prisoners in this special wing. All are very long-term prisoners and are special in their own particular way."

"As usual my letter is an open one to all the lads and to my 'old' friend Seamus O Tuathail. My regards to everyone, and do not worry about Conor or myself. Our morale is high and our health is fine. We shall remain strong and will keep faith in our ideals."

Yours,

Patrick C. O'Sullivan.

united irishman news



Mobile advice bureau

The enterprising James Connolly Cumann of Sinn Fein in Ballyferret have organised a mobile citizen's advice bureau for their area which has turned out to be a very successful venture. The picture above shows the Rúnal of the Cumann, Maire Ni Philip and also the Cathaoirleach, John McGeough beside the vehicle which they use for the advice service.

The bureau sits each Sunday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and in the short time of its existence has handled numerous cases successfully ranging from house repairs to HP worries, rent arrears and employment problems.

Their latest success was the case of a Mrs. X whose son, aged 10, was committed for six years to an industrial school in 1968, for non-attendance at school, and no effort was made by the court to ascertain why the child disliked going to school. Mrs. X contacted representatives of political parties in the area including the recently elected Sean Sherwin (FF) but failed to get any help.

Eventually Mrs. X contacted the Sinn Fein Mobile Advice Bureau who immediately made representations, on her behalf, to the Department of Education. They sought, and obtained, an interview with an Inspector of the Department and agreement was reached which resulted in the child being discharged after a place had been found for him at a school other than that at which he was originally attending.

Dublin fishery conference

The National Waters Restoration League will hold an Educational Conference on Sunday April 5, in Liberty Hall (Room 401), Dublin. Speakers at the conference will include Seamus O'Tuathail, Editor 'Stolen Waters', John De Courcy-Ireland, Tomas Mac Giolla, and Arthur Reynolds, Editor 'Irish Skipper'. It is hoped also to have a speaker from the Council Against Pollution.

The N.W.R. League invite members and supporters of the Republican Movement to attend this conference, it will begin at 11 a.m. sharp and

Stolen waters again

The third edition of 'Stolen Waters' just released indicates its great success as an educator of public opinion on the issue of river ownership in Ireland. Containing 35 pages it sells at 2/6 per copy.

'Stolen Waters' was first issued in late 1968 and represents a digest of the views contained in the *United Irishman* series 'The Poacher's Guide to Ireland's Rivers and Lakes'.

Since its first date of issue, the voices of county councils, urban district councils, angling associations, and at least one Board of Conservators (Cork) have supported the demand of the National Waters Restoration League for the re-possession of inland waters. 'Fish-men' and rumours of 'fish-men' make news in the Irish and English national press. The Dublin Government has even established a Commission to investigate the whole question of public ownership and report back. Public ownership is now a definite prospect.

It was the success of the League's campaign has thrown up problems of policy and direction. It is now obvious that the Government Commission is not to be a disinterested body investigating the best approach towards the resumption of public control of fisheries. The Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr. Blaney, has shown great antipathy to the objects of the campaign and, when announcing the establishment of the Commission, went so far as to predict one of the most critical decisions that the Commission might be expected to make. This related to the question of compensation to present 'owners' in the event of public ownership.

Mr. Blaney earned the sobriquet 'Niall of the Nine Millions' by announcing that compensation to the tune of twenty times the annual letting value (approximately £9,000,000) would be in order. This forecasting of the result of what should be an

independent decision of the Commission — coupled with the refusal to appoint a nominee of the National Waters Restoration League to the Commission — indicates that the Commission is intended to defuse the League's campaign, and do little else.

Kincara remembers Riordan

A commemoration in memory of Padraic O'Riordan, the first secretary of the National Restoration League, was held on Sunday March 15, at the spot where he was killed in an accident four years ago outside Kincara, Co. Galway.

The commemoration was presided over by Seamus Mac Eoin, Galway Comhairle Ceannair, Sinn Fein and an oration was delivered by Tomas Misteil, Ard Comhairle, and former Republican M.P. for mid-Ulster.

In his oration Tomas Misteil said: "Padraic O'Riordan was one of the youngest generation of Republicans who realised the need to become involved in the struggles of ordinary people at both national and local level. He was aware that Republicanism was not just a political doctrine but one of deep social content designed to meet the need for equality in national affairs. He saw that the political settlement of 1921 did not alter or obviate in any way the glaring social injustices besetting the country. It was this philosophy and his advanced social conscience which led him to play a founding part in the National Waters Restoration. He gave further example of his involvement by his association with the Aran Fishermen's Co-op. It was his activities in this work which led to his sad and untimely death."

There is even greater need in Ireland to-day for Republicans to become involved in the social and economic affairs of the nation because this nation is being sold out together with the interests of its people by those who lay claim to govern in the names of Tone, Pearse and other patriots of the past. The recent history of Fianna Fail and the Unionist Party is an example of the sell-out and subservience to a foreign interest. None of the political parties in Ireland have the courage or ability to put forward policies which in the long term will work for the betterment of the Irish people. The effect of the 26 County Government's policy on agriculture and land is well known to people in this part of the country. And the recent easing of restrictions on aliens purchasing land in the country by Mr. Flanagan is another aspect of this policy. The

long-term effect is not readily seen but be sure it will open up large areas of land for further speculation by outside interests.

"At the present time the Fianna Fail government is making desperate efforts to involve this country in the E.E.C. — what will happen in Ireland and particularly in the West, if this application is successful is that we will have either large factory farms or vast open spaces to be enjoyed only by the few. One effect of the Common Market, Mansholt Plan for Agriculture is that in Italy alone some eleven million farmers and food workers will be forced off the land in 10 to 15 years. This policy has been and is being pursued in Ireland, North and South. If, therefore, we are to save the Irish nation as defined by Pearse and Connolly we must oppose in every way the policies of the Northern and Southern Governments."

Wreaths were laid on the monument on behalf of the Republican Movement, the various counties of the West and on behalf of the different branches of the N.W.R.L.

Vidor meeting picketed

Members of Sinn Fein in Dublin picketed a meeting of creditors of Vidor (Eire) Ltd., at the Shelbourne Hotel on March 24.

The picket was organised by Comhairle Ceannair Atha Cliaith in order to expose the latest flop in the long list of failures of this kind, speculative foreign industry which is supposed to bring prosperity to Ireland.

Vidor (Eire) Ltd., a subsidiary of British Compton Parkinson Ltd., was established five years ago in Roscommon town and £144,700 in State grants were paid to the directors of the factory which is now being closed down. The work force of 133 will be made redundant and course and thus will join the long list of workers whose livelihood has been snatched away by the operation of the Free Trade Agreement with Britain.

The reason for the closure is the yearly lowering of tariffs on goods imported from Britain and is further proof of the folly of the Fianna Fail government's signing of this Agreement.

Philadelphia easter ceremony

The Clan na Gael and Irish Republican Army Veterans of District 12, Philadelphia, will hold their Annual Easter Commemoration for all who died for Irish freedom, from a Mass and a Communion Breakfast on April 19, 1970.

The Mass will be celebrated at Holy Cross Church, 154 E. Mount Airy Ave., Philadelphia, Pa. 19119, at 12:00 noon, and breakfast will follow at the Irish Centre, 6815 Emlen St. Guest speaker will be Milton Sharp Independent candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania.

The Chairman of the Commemoration is Tom Regan, Secretary, Neil Byrne. Representing the large committee are: Hugh McDermott, Frank Hough, Gerald Conboy, Rudy Stauber, John O'Donnell. For tickets and information please call: Mrs. Makowski at BA-9-6001, Mrs. Regan at FI-2-5482. Donation \$5 per person.

The Stephens project

From Nice, March 25,
By the Editor.

It was almost 9 o'clock in the morning when I reached Mont Chauvre overlooking Nice in the Cote d'Azur, southern France. A long night of rain since departure from Paris had given way to the bright sunshine for which this mountain strip along the Mediterranean coastline is so famous.

Below where I stood on the summit the narrow mountain road was unrolled its fourteen kilometres into the valley. A good twelve miles of the serpentine windings of the descent could be observed from this eagle's eye in the Maritime Alps. All round were steep slopes of over-cropping peaks and bluffs with precious terraced areas for vine growing cascading out at their base at every level of the valley into Nice.

Suddenly, far below, I noticed four specks moving in the sunlight on the lowest reach of the mountain road. Good. The men of the Stephens Project were climbing to keep the rendezvous agreed upon before I left Paris. I had come from there especially to meet the four men from the National Cycling Association now in France on the greatest pioneering project ever undertaken in the history of cycle racing in Ireland.

Called after James Stephens, founder of the Fenian Movement who learned so much from the revolutionary France of his day, the Stephens Project involved the sending to the Continent for a full season of four of Ireland's top cyclists, a caravan for the project was made possible largely through the determination and self-sacrifice of the four men involved — Andy Stynes (Dublin), Seamus Kennedy and Christy Reynolds (Meath) and the captain of the team, Ben Donnelly (Antrim).

For Donnelly it is a far cry from his native Belfast and the barricades of the Springfield Rd. behind which he stood only last August. Here he was now in the lead as the team whirled up the last slope to exchange greetings and ask for the news from home.

The news from home was good but the news from Nice was even better. Two days before, on Sunday, they had taken part in their first race since they arrived in France six days previously, a massed start event from the centre of Nice to the spot where we stood, 14 kilometres of sheer climbing, with Ben Donnelly taking third place, Seamus Kennedy three out of the four interval prizes on the course, and both Christy Reynolds and Andy Stynes well placed; this despite the fact that they had hardly begun their training schedule.

But the significance of the presence in France of the four men with whom I was now talking goes much further than the winning of races. The Stephens Project represents a breakthrough for the National Cycling Association equivalent in significance to the first Ras Tailteann: it anticipates the day which is fast approaching for all amateur sports in Ireland when the top men in each sport will be afforded the opportunity to become full-time race setters. Such a development is inevitable in the age of the forty hour five-day week.

The biggest amateur organisation in Ireland, the G.A.A., has tentatively approached this position with almost a month's full time training for teams competing in the All-Ireland and extensive tour abroad. But the N.C.A., by sending these men to the home of cycling for a full season with a commission to follow



● Ben Donnelly (Antrim)

the sun, train regularly (they do an average of 60 miles a day), and win as many races as possible, has set a trend that all other sports bodies in Ireland will study with interest in relation to their own particular sport.

Such a development, as the Stephens Project is in the course of demonstrating, adds a glamour to the amateur game without detracting from the amateur ideal or discouraging mass participation. It also provides amateur sports with standards that act as a very necessary counterweight to the commercialised attractions of professional sport. Indeed, it is an initiative that might be studied with profit by the G.A.A.

In the short term, it also provides the makings of a national team with interna-



● Andy Stynes (Dublin)



● Seamus Kennedy (Meath)



● Christy Reynolds (Meath)

tional experience for the 1970 Ras Tailteann which should compare well with the best Europe can offer.

News and greetings having been exchanged an arrangement made to meet later at the caravan in Nice, the men of the Stephens Project set off down the mountain. The legend 'Ireland' emblazoned on their track-suits stood, I knew, for the whole of the thirty-two counties.

'Les Irlandais', as they have come to be known locally, rode in line, bunching together slightly as they banked into the hairpin bends of the road, wheels flashing scimitar-like in the sunshine, until they vanished from sight in the folds of the valley.

I felt privileged to stand there watching a strand of Irish sporting history being woven on a hillside above Nice.

Opinions on the common market

Michael Pat Murphy, T.D. of West Cork . . . "Expert opinion seems to be that small farmers will disappear in the Common Market. Adjustments will be needed and farmers would have to group into large units or change from dairying altogether." (Irish Press, February 1970).

Donal Creed, T.D., Cork County Committee of Agriculture . . . "It is certain that entering the Common Market will militate against those in the dairying industry."

John D. Bruton, Irish Cattle Traders' Association, Dunboyne, Co. Meath . . . "If Ireland joins E.E.C. we would be joining a market which is already top-heavy with agricultural supplies. And when this happens the overall outcome must be an overall fall in prices . . . We must creep before we leap into what may well be the cause of upsetting our farming way of life, our culture and traditions. Better leave well alone, I say, for after all we have succeeded in weathering many storms on the home front down the years." (Irish Press, 26 March, 1970).

Greim an fhir bhaite

"Cé nach bhfuil oiread soathair don duine bocht é iascach lochann le fáil na fairraige, 'na dhiaidh sin féin, ní fhágann sin nach mbionn a bheag nó a mhór de sheifte as a nGaeilacht. Go dtí lá an lae inniu is 'daoiné móra' no 'uaise', 'thar tír isteach, is mó a bhfuil solamair na lochann is na n-abhann sa tír seo aca."

"Th'éis fúrmhór na dtiarnaí talún so tír seo a guid taluin a dhíol, bhí aon rud amháin ar choinníodar greim an fhir bhaite air, an iascach lochann agus réim na talún, i gcruthaas go raibh an ghash ansin i gcónaí."

"Tá súil ag an tionsántaí go n-athrófar an dlí seo amach anseo, sa gcóir go bhfuil solamair ag an ré cheanaigh a chuid talún ar an mbriac a shnáthas tríd an abhainn atá ann, nó ar an giorrta a rithas ar thailín's turgois an tsleibhe atá mar chhimin isteach le an abhainnathas," — as "Oshas in Luadhainn" le Colm Ó Geasa, Ollig ar tSolathair, 1937.



● Members of the Birmingham Branch of Clann na h-Eireann pictured during the hunger fast for the release of Irish political prisoners in English Jails, March 15, 1970.

Court fines in release campaign

Three men who demonstrated against the Harold Wilson visit to Birmingham on March 6 were fined a total of £20 at Birmingham Magistrates Court on March 19.

The men, Sean Jones, Peadar McGurty and Bill Douglas were calling for the release of Smullen and Doherty as Wilson was being ushered into the Irish Development Association's centre by the committee which runs the club. The police present suddenly turned on the demonstrators, as it was obvious that the shouting was having an embarrassing effect on Mr. Wilson and his 'Irish' friends. The three men were arrested, the police using quite an amount of force.

The IDA is a grouping of local 'respectable' Irish people who do not like 'politics' being introduced into their affairs, but on March 14/15 a 24 hour fast was organised in Victoria Square to coincide with the annual St. Patrick's Day parade organised by the IDA. Thus, for the second time in a fortnight 'politics' intruded into a major social event of the IDA. Again the issue was the release of the jailed Irishmen, Smullen, Doherty, Lynch, O'Sullivan, McIlveen and Bruton.

The focus of the protests in Birmingham is Roy Hattersley, MP for Sparkbrook, a constituency with a large Irish vote. As Minister of Defence (Administration) he drafted and steered through the Commons the 'Ulster Defence Regiment' Bill, thus reneging

on the anti-Unionist stand which originally won him his seat. In like manner, he betrayed the large number of coloured votes in the constituency by voting for restrictive legislation on the entry of Commonwealth citizens to the UK. He was responsible for bringing Wilson to the IDA centre on the night of the arrests in an effort to salvage the Irish vote. He succeeded only in further revealing not only his own and Wilson's hypocrisy, but also that of the "respectable" shoneens who call themselves "leaders of the Irish community".

The campaign for the release of the prisoners continues in other areas also. Clann na h-Eireann called a meeting at short notice in Hyde Park, London, on February 28. Although the crowd was not large, virtually every Irish political organisation in London was represented and pledged their support for the release campaign. Clann members also came down to the demonstration from Birmingham and

Glasgow branches. The Indian Workers Association and the Birmingham Irish Civil Rights group also sent contingents.

After the meeting there was a march to the Home Office during which two sit-downs took place — the first, in Oxford Circus seriously disrupted traffic for a brief period. In Whitehall, a petition signed by the representatives of 16 organisations was handed into Downing Street and a 24 hour fast/vigil was maintained on the Home Office ending at 6 p.m. on the following Sunday.

At present Clann branches are organising local committees in towns with large Irish communities to raise the level of agitation. A second march from Hyde Park took place on Sunday, March 22, organised by Clann and supported by the Irish Civil Rights Solidarity Group. It went to the Ulster Office and then to Downing Street where a petition was handed in calling for the release of the prisoners.

Sealta on mBiobla BRIGHID NI LOINGSIGH

Insint shimpli shothuigthe ar thri scéal on mBiobla, léaráidí daite le hUna ní MhaoilEoin. Cé go bhfuil fluirse leabhar den chineál seo ar fáil i mBéarla ní raibh a leithéid ann go dtí seo i nGaeilge. Ba cheart go mbeadh cóip i ngach teaghlach Gaeilch.

crua 9/- post, cáin 9d.

SAIRSEAL AGUS DILL

37 Br. Ardpháirce, Áth Cliath 6

National Book Service

	Incl. Post
Kevin Barry (Sean Cronin)	4/- X
Songs and Ballads	3/- X
Down Dublin Streets (Stories on the Easter Rising)	4/- X
Our Own Red Blood (1916 events, Sean Cronin)	4/- X
Battle of the Bogside (Picture Album of the Derry Battles)	5/6 X
Republican Congress (George Gilmore)	6/6 □
Case against the Common Market	2/9 □
Stolen Waters (The case for public ownership of Ireland's rivers and lakes)	2/9 □
Ua Rathaille (P. O Snodagh)	1/9 □
An Aisling (M. O Cadhain)	2/- □
Republicanism, Christianity & Marxism (Derry Kelleher)	7/6 □

Black & White Art Posters
Barnes and McCormick
James Connolly (Special limited edition, single copies only, first orders received) 5/- □

Select the items you require by marking the quantity in the appropriate box □

Please send me the items marked

NAME

ADDRESS

Enclosed is P.O. value £.....

Send orders to the United Irishman Office, 30 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1.

Struggle against the odds

The Cement Strike, now nine weeks old as we go to press, is paralysing the building industry with almost 11,000 men laid off, according to reports.

The strike began after a claim for a £7 increase in wages by cement workers was turned down by the Employers, Cement Ltd. An offer by Cement Ltd. of a £5/10/0 increase was rejected by the workers. The cement workers' claim was by no means excessive as they are paid a low wage, around £14. The increase would have left them with a similar basic income as that of building workers, just a living wage.

Cement Ltd., themselves have admitted that they could meet their workers' claims (see Cement Ltd., Chairman's report, Irish Times, March 20, 1970) but that the interests of the economy, Home Jack's 7% ceiling, the horrors of other members of the FUE, who were less well paid, could be met with similar demands, they had to refuse the wage increase. A great show of solidarity there by the FUE.

Unfortunately the solidarity has not been evident in some Trade Union circles. One despicable aspect of the strike has been the blacklegging of cement from the Six Counties and Britain and also the granting of import licences to building firms by the 26 County Department of Industry and Commerce. Only now after nine weeks are the big Trade Unions beginning to move against the cement imports.

The Trade Union officials concerned mainly with the construction section in the 26 Counties are reluctant to become involved in the dispute and have shied away from the cement workers' call for aid. Their solution is the same as that offered by the Mayors of Limerick and Drogheda, that is that the cement workers should not interfere with cement imports, the idea being to break the monopoly of Cement Ltd., using the cement workers as pawns in the game.

These Trade Union officials are more concerned with the cost to them if the building workers are laid off on a large scale (which is now happening anyway) than with the principle of solidarity with their fellow trade unionists' struggle. The Trade Union Movement must bring Cement Ltd. to their knees if they were prepared to use their strength fully and effectively. Dublin workers have shown the way and stopped all cement imports at the Port.

The strike has not been short of militant action however, as the cement workers have carried out a magnificent struggle against the blackleg smugglers and their Garda escorts. Some of the larger firms, Sisk and CPI, Lucan, have been using their own transport to bring cement across the border with Garda escorts. The Tallaght Block Co. have also been using their own transport, mainly at night. The Tallaght Block Company produces 70,000 blocks a week. Private carrier firms through out the country are being hired by Gill's, the firm, to bring in the cement i.e. McCann's of Stillorgan (Kilmacud Rd.). Several private carrier firms are being hired in cement of their own accord and then selling it at increased prices. The Tallaght Block Company and McCann Bros. Stillorgan had their premises, machinery and trucks destroyed recently in an attack by unknown persons.

An attempt to unload a boat carrying cement cargo at Cill Chiaráin on the Galway coast was prevented by members of Coiste Cearta

Sibhialta na Gaeltachta on April 1. The cement was being imported by Uachtair Keogh who later had the boat unloaded by his 'mafia' at Bunowen on April 2. The Mafia were also responsible for attacks on some individual members of Coiste Cearta Sibhialta na Gaeltachta.

An action committee has been set up by some Dublin Building Workers who organised protest marches, meetings and pickets in Dublin recently supporting the cement workers. The action committees have called on all building workers to show solidarity with the cement workers by joining with them in their protest marches and by refusing to handle blacked cement. The importance of the cement strike should not be overlooked. If the employers succeed in defeating the workers, in comparison to last year's maintenance dispute the tables will have been turned. The pattern will not be set as it was last year with good wage increases in the interest of the workers but by the pattern of Cement Ltd. and the Fianna Fáil 7% ceiling.

Hostile to this sort of result is to be prevented the cement workers must be given immediate assistance and support by all trade unionists as is without necessary for their victory.

The belt still holds on Boyne

"You have made an order in favour of the belted Earls and robber barons of the River Boyne and against the interests of the Irish people and history will find against you."

This was the reply of Donnchadh Mac Raghnaill to Mr. Justice Kenny's decision to grant an injunction restraining seven named people from fishing at the fishery of the Earl of Mount Charles, at Slane, Co. Meath, on March 25.

This latest incident in the struggle to reconquer the rivers of Ireland for the Irish people, showed the function of the judiciary in preserving the status quo where the interests of large property owners are concerned.

Peter Moore, ex-Mayor of Drogheda, also among those involved, recognised the part played by the court when he said "The rights of the lords are the rights of the conquerors and if this court upholds those rights it upholds the conquest of Ireland by the English."

The case itself followed a meeting between the owners and the group-shooting Minister for Justice, Mr. O'Morain, where proceedings were planned against partridge shooting at 'fish-ins'. See full report of this meeting on page 6. Having heard that Lord Mount Charles's title to the river rested on a Charter of James I, Justice Kenny said that the injunction would run until April 6, and that any member of the public disobeying the order would be in contempt.

On March 21 the paper was again sold in the centre of Belfast, and a police spokesman told a reporter, Mr. J. Campbell, that it was not a police matter. On March 25, however, when charges were brought against some of the sellers the Resident Magistrate, Mr. Anthony Lunn made it quite clear that they were in court because they had defied the ban imposed on the UI under the Special Powers Act. According to Mr. Lunn's interpretation it constituted 'disorderly behaviour' to have broken the ban by publicly selling the paper. This is just



...AND WE KNOW WHO'S GOING WITH HIM !

Ban on paper sales defied

In recent months Republicans in the North have been fighting for rights which exist in any so-called democratic state - the right of political expression and the right of political association. Both these rights are at present denied them under repressive Stormont legislation.

In protest against the ban on the United Irishman, Republicans have sold the paper in public in Belfast during the past three months and also in Derry, Armagh, Strabane, and Newry. The only action taken by police was to confiscate copies of the paper, this was done in order to show that the ban was still in force and would not be suspended.

However, a change occurred in police tactics in Belfast on February 28 last when sellers of the United Irishman were subjected to intimidation by police and were arrested on trumped up charges of 'disorderly behaviour' and 'assault'. Despite these attempts at intimidation, Republicans have continued the public sale of the UI during the month of March. Support was forthcoming in large measure from the general public at all times when the paper was sold.

On March 21 the paper was again sold in the centre of Belfast, and a police spokesman told a reporter, Mr. J. Campbell, that it was not a police matter. On March 25, however, when charges were brought against some of the sellers the Resident Magistrate, Mr. Anthony Lunn made it quite clear that they were in court because they had defied the ban imposed on the UI under the Special Powers Act. According to Mr. Lunn's interpretation it constituted 'disorderly behaviour' to have broken the ban by publicly selling the paper. This is just

the Unionist way of saying that "We are afraid to use the Special Powers Act at the moment, but it doesn't matter, because we can get you anyway".

Republicans in Belfast and throughout the North hope that they will get the support of all democrats in their fight for free speech and freedom of political association.

Forest Homes Ltd., a development company formed by Sheerin-Wynne and Co., Solicitors, 5 Lower Merion Street, is engaged at the moment buying up the back-gardens of ten labourers cottages at Easton Rd., Leixlip, Co. Kildare. Sheerin-Wynne and Co. is the style or title under which a Mr. John M. Flanagan of Dublin and Ballaghadereen, Sean Flanagan, Minister for Lands to you, practises.

Sheerin-Wynne and Co. (Sean Flanagan) with the assistance of Mr. Tony (Heinz-Erin Springbok) O'Reilly's father needed maps from the land registry office to effect the purchases. Getting a map from the mapping section usually takes months; but Sheerin-Wynne and Co. (Sean Flanagan) were able to get the maps over the week-end. After all, a Minister must not alone be efficient, he must be seen to be efficient.

Truth in the lack of news

The 'fish-in' campaign being waged by the National Waters Restoration League is getting excellent coverage on the television and press - that is, in most of the national

and provincial press with the exception of the Irish Independent. Why no coverage from the Independent? Brand-new hot-red Editor of the Independent, Aidan Pender, tells the news on his readers. Dr. O'Chance and T. V. Murphy, both lessees of fishing rights to the Boyne, might object to the news in the news of 'fish-ins'. Both gentlemen are directors of Independent Newspapers Ltd., who recently fired Louis McRedmond as Editor of the Irish Independent and hired Mr. Pender.

Gambling boom for Limerick ?

Sometime in November last Mr. Michael O'Morain, T.D., Minister for Justice, let his good friend Steve Coughlan, T.D., Mayor of Limerick, into a little secret. The secret - that he intended to bring in legislation relaxing some of the restrictions on one-armed bandits. 'Nuif said, Steve put himself in touch with the Irish (?) Representative of Bally Slott Machines, Fird amháin na an áit seo ag iomaiocht agus ag coimhlint le rannanna ríni Gaelacha de chuid Chonradh na Gaeltachta ba baili? Agus ta nearr tacaiocht le fail ag B.L.E. sa chondae a Ghaeilgeoirí agus o phoblaictóirí an C.L.G.

Forecast - Don't be surprised if the wheelchair Socialist, Mayor of Limerick, who operates a public house with his left arm, a bookmaking business with his right arm, equipped with an extra one-armed bandit arm, and emerges as the Slot Machine King.

Maybe it was a one-armed bandit who fired the shots into the Maoist Bookshop in Limerick.

O Fainin agus on C.L.G.

Toghadh Pádraig O Fainin ina Uachtarán ar Chumann Luthcheas Gael um Chaise. Theip air dhá uair cheana an onoir seo a bhaint amach ('64 and '67). B'éidir anois gur maith an rud e gur theip, mór gur mór gur an ga ta leis anois agus go dtí 1973 na rianm roimhe seo.

Nuair a deirim sin taim ag clacadh leis gur duine mar a 'thuiris e O Fainin, duine a thuigean e chomh domhain in iithir agus i bhfuil agus i smior na h-Eireann ata premhacha C.L.G.

An saothar ata roimhe, scairneáid ar an ré is cumasai agus is croga. Agus ní h-iad na deacrachtaí na mo fáil cinn is mo a deantar caint fúthu aithéal C.L.G. mar eagraíocht, soláchar aiseannua-aimseartha, soláchar argó, etc.

An chad rud agus an rud is mo lucht ceannais C.L.G. a thabhairt arais go bunphribháil agus go bunphribháil an Chumainn. Bh'fúil ga le rud chomh h-afiseach, deir tu? An ga leithidí Sheain UI Shiocháin ta thuas agus an nua fáil bhí C.L.G.? Ta ga leis, oiread ga agus a t'ga Jack Lynch, beagnach na C.L.G. faoi stair Sheain UI Shiocháin an-chosúl na Fianna Fáil faoi stair Jack Lynch o thaobh náisiúntachta de. Is "gluaiseachtaí náisiúnta" iad arais, Fianna Fáil agus an C.L.G. Glacann iad mar chuspóir dá gcuid aithneú na rí, athcheol na Gaeltachta, cothu an chultúir dúchais (e.g. ríni na h-Eireann) agus mar sin de. D'fheada a rá go bhfuil an dá eagraíocht ar chomh-éifeacht freisin maidir le feidhmiú na gcumais sin fúil laistigh dá n-eagraíocht fein, gan tract ar an saol mór laismh.

Seans nach a béal-ghra an focal ceit ar sheasamh C.L.G. ach ta an chosúlacht sin air. Le cupla bliain anuas ta C.L.G. ag tabhairt aithneais agus cuidiú mór do dhá eagraíocht frith-

náisiúnta - B.L.E. i gcás luthcheas agus an I.C.F. i gcás rothlaocháir; agus le seo a dheanamh tugann siad droim laimhe do dhá eagraíocht náisiúnta (32 Contae), an N. A. C. A. agus an N.C.A.

I gcás na Gaeltachta de bionn ar ach runai sa Chumann leagan Gaeltachta de airm a suas agus ta go leor cur i gceill eile mar sin an. Ach ta uaid na Gaeltachta sa Chumann mithe go mór i leig le Chubianta beaga anuas. Tá staid na Gaeltachta anois chomh h-annais le staid na ríni C-lachta: ní ní ní ar bith deifla gur fúil tract air ar deifla.

Is leor cose a chur le ríni Gaillda ach ní gá na dhednamh le ríni Gaelacha a bheas agus a fhorbairt. An chús go bhfuil an seail amháin na go bhfuil go leor daoinel agus is fadhb e seo a bhaineann le daoinel. Agus ta bhfuil cumhacht agus i gC.L.G. nach bhfuil suim acu i rud ar bith ach na cluichí féin, a n-eagrú, a stríurá, a bhforbairt. Seans siad an chús a dtreo rudaí eile toise iad a bheith i mbunreacht na h-eagraíochta agus sin an meid.

Tóg Dr. Jim Brosnan i gGairr mar shampla. Tá lár-ionad brea siamsaíochta don phobal trosta faoina stiúir i dTrá Lí. Is lom síleadh iteach an Atlantach a bhfuil na an áit seo ag iomaiocht agus ag coimhlint le rannanna ríni Gaelacha de chuid Chonradh na Gaeltachta ba baili? Agus ta nearr tacaiocht le fail ag B.L.E. sa chondae a Ghaeilgeoirí agus o phoblaictóirí an C.L.G.

Tarlainn sé gur condae mór imirce e Ciarraí. Tá Gaeltacht Thiar ann agus gíobal de cheann eile o dheas. Tuaisí na n-Gaeltachtaí sin agus síleadh iteach an Atlantach o bnaidh C.L.G.: ach is i n-gan fhios don Chumann e!

No is cuma leo, fíad is go gcriochnaítear clár cluichí na bliain. Fostaithe, dí-thostaithe, imirce, Gaeltach, seilbh ar thalamh is ar iascach is ar mhaoin na tíre - baineann siad uilig le na n-áit, ach ní léir do C.L.G. e. i Giarraí ná in aon áit eile. Is fusa imeacht le sruth, cé go bhfuil an sruth anois ag líonadh iteach le sruth. Tá aithne ar na leithid Pádraig O Fainin anois na leithid agus doimhneachas an náisiúntachais a mhíniú arís do dhaoine go bhfuil an rúisc sin caillte acu. Ma theipann ar O Fainin - agus ní ach trí bliain aige - beidh an lá ag itinn Fr. Moranach a dtá aithne ar na leithid na cluichí féin a bheith ar chaidhean ard.

Be é an Finneachas Clabhaín Chumann na Gaeltachta chualigh se ar scoll chuig Conrad na Gaeltach; chualigh se amach san saol um Chaise, ceithre bliain is caoga o bhoin. Ní fíad gur Chumann anois anois a it sin saol a leathnu agus a dhoinmniú agus a dhainmniú agus beart a dheanamh de roimhe a bheith. Sin, no treoiridh le Moranachas an Cumain iteach san uaign - fáil mheas.

Only two ?

Only two results of support from organisations outside the movement have been received for the Prisoners Release Campaign. One from the National Cycling Association and another from Dail na nOg, an Irish-speaking youth organisation.

The resolution from Dail na nOg reads as follows: "Go dtuagann Dail na nOg tacaíocht don feachtas gur aidhm do Eamonn Smullen, Gerry Doherty, Conor Lynch, Pat O'Sullivan, Barry Bruton agus Alan McElveen a shaothrú. Freisin, cinneann sé junta na 26 Contae de bharr a pháirt i ndaoineach an seiseir thuasluaibhe."

The release committee have asked that copies of all support resolutions passed at County Councils, Trade, Professional and voluntary bodies etc., be sent to 30 Gardiner Place as soon as available.



● Officers of the British-created 'Ulster Defence Regiment' who took up duty from the first of April. Behind the bright new uniform, England's traditional recipe for repression in Ireland: a motley collection of English gentlemen, Castle Catholics and B Special murderers.

Voice in the wilderness

That most bizarre of publications, the Fianna Fail sponsored 'Voice of the North', a weekly publication aimed at influencing the Civil Rights Movement in the North to follow the Jack Lynch-Harold Wilson "federal" line, is in trouble again.

Jim O'Boyle, the American who took over as Editor of the paper after the initial United Irishman censure of the purpose of the 'Voice', has been fired from his job.

The reasons for the Fianna Fail agent who takes his money and his orders from Neil Blaney, Kevin Boland and Charles Haughey, was responsible for both the hiring and firing of Mr. O'Boyle.

The reasons for the O'Boyle dismissal are still not clear but the timing, just one week before Easter, might seem to suggest that O'Boyle was not happy with the lead story that Brady wanted him to print on the Easter week edition of the 'Voice'. O'Boyle was fired and the story was printed.

The lead story was a thinly disguised attack on the Republican Movement, a sound-up version of the well worn red scare. The heart of the article reads:

"When the Risins came in 1916, James Connolly had but fifty men who staved faithful to him in the Irish Citizen Army... the doctrinaire Socialists had abandoned the Republic."

"They abandoned the Republic in 1916... and the doctrinaire socialists of 1970 are prepared to abandon it today whenever it suits their alien purpose."

Even O'Boyle could not let his knowledge or consent, attacking the United Irishman and signing them with O'Boyle's name. This fact



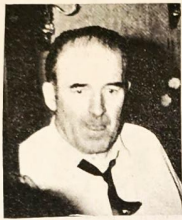
● Seamus Brady



● Corriann

stomach Seamus Brady's version of James Connolly!

Other contributing factors to O'Boyle's demise could have been the fact that he objected to another of Brady's agents, John Kelly of Belfast, writing letters to the Belfast 'Irish News' without



● Neil Blaney

was explained to the Editor of the United Irishman by O'Boyle himself.

The Kelly brothers in Belfast loom large in the crazy world of Seamus Brady. While John was forging O'Boyle's name to a letter, his brother Billy was writing to the press in Belfast over the name of St. Patrick's Citizen Defence Committee defending Neil Blaney's sabre dance thus fire-eating act in Donegal on the nation's issue. The Committee immediately repudiated the letter.

What future now for the 'Voice'? Who will Brady find to do the dirty work of Fianna Fail in the North? The editorial address of the 'Voice' has shifted back again to Ormeau Drive, Dunamannon, the home of the man known to political circles as "Count the Catholics" Corrigan.

Mr. Corrigan's arithmetic has led him into strange waters indeed. Only recently, in the 'Sunday Independent', Father Terence O'Keefe, Lecturer in Philosophy at the New University of Ulster, wrote refully of the intolerance shown to radical ideas by bigots like Corrigan. "It is sad," he said, "but perhaps predictable, that the most bitter attacks on socialism are beginning to come from practising Christians, often in the name of some national 'Christian ideal' or 'Christian state'. Where else would you find the relevance of Aidan Corrigan's remark at a meeting in Enniskillen: 'At least Jack Lynch is not a Communist or a lapsed Catholic' (Irish News, 2nd March)?"

If Mr. Corrigan could tear himself away from the writing of sectarian articles for the 'Voice', he would benefit enormously from a

PROTEST MARCH and AERIOCHT

To demand the release of the Irish Political Prisoners.

April 11

March from Parnell Square, 8 p.m. to the British Embassy.

Musicians and singers welcome for Aeriocht.

reading of Fr. O'Keefe's incisive article.

Speaking at the Easter Commemoration in Milltown Cemetery, Belfast, Malachy McBurney warned the people of the North, and Republicans in particular, to beware of the agents of Fianna Fail in the distribution of a propaganda sheet known as the 'Voice of the North', but which was, in fact, the vehicle used by these people to condition the public into accepting the Federal solution."

Dispute in the tunnels

Turlough Hill, Co. Wicklow the site for the £12m. E.S.B. pumped storage generating station seems to be all set at the beginning of its career for a stormy passage as far as industrial relations are concerned. The present dispute there has been ignored by the "national" newspapers.

The main part of the contract known as Lot 2 which involves the tunnelling and installation work is being undertaken by Tunnelling Consortium. This a group of five companies: (1) Alfred Kunz & Co. (German), (2) Holzmann A.G. (German), Siemens BAV. Union GMBH (German), (4) Strabag BAV. A.G. (German), (5) Irish Engineering & Harbour Construction Co. Ltd.

The camp site and canteen are administered by Carroll Ltd., one of Sean Lemass's companies. The camp buildings were erected and finished by an English Company.

On March 19 last the craftsmen employed on the site began an "unofficial" strike in an attempt to speed up negotiations for a pay claim which had been made in January last. Irish Engineering and Harbour Construction Co. refused to negotiate on site, preferring to use the 'big stick' policy. The men on strike, nineteen fitters, eight electricians, six carpenters, were members of NEETU, AEU, ASW and ETU. Feeling that they had made their point the men were willing to return to work providing that negotiations took place immediately on resumption of work.

However, it was discovered that during the strike the German supervisory personnel had been carrying out manual work on the plant. Because of this the men refused to return to work. Representations were made to the management who refused to withdraw the Germans. The company pointed out that these Germans had been given permission to obtain work permits by the Unions. The Unions were contacted and they explained that the work permits had been sanctioned for supervisory work only and that had there been any attempt to bring in aliens to do work for which Irishmen were available, then objections would have been raised.

On the mining side there are also several Germans and Austrians supervising the



● John Hume, the Independent M.P. from Derry, urged the oppressed people of the North to join the Ulster Defence Regiment. To date he has not joined himself. Hume couldn't even fool himself. Don't let him fool you!

tunnelling works. The Germans reside in much superior accommodation in the camp, and although the site for Irish workers is reasonably comfortable, the German camp is luxurious by contrast.

On the site all workers and staff are issued with protective clothing but a superior grade is issued to staff whether they be clerical, canteen etc., even to the resident chaplain. For certain work, especially in the tunnels or for electrical work this clothing would be more suitable than that issued to craftsmen.

The site has been in operation for 8 months and no full-time safety officer has been appointed. This work is being carried out by a male nurse on a part-time basis. No attempt is being made to set up proper safety precautions and practices in the tunnels, despite pressure from the E.S.B. safety officer.

On March 26 the strikers decided to return to work having obtained promises from the NEETU that a national issue would be made of the question of Irish workers. At present the German staff total 18 and more are expected to arrive. The contractors have indicated that if the Irish workers give any more trouble they would be replaced by German fitters and electricians. With this attitude prevailing among employers at Turlough Hill it seems that the site is in for a 'long, hot summer'.

Cork republicans protest

The demonstration at Béal an Ghile, Co. Cork, organised by West Cork Republicans and supported by and also by representatives of the Garda Síochána in Cork City and North Cork the hypocritical presence of Jack Lynch, Fianna Fail Taoiseach, and nothing else.

It was decided to demonstrate in order to highlight the duplicity of the Fianna Fail leader who was allegedly commemorating an IRA action of the 20's in which arms were seized from RIC men, while at the same time six young Irishmen are in English jails as a result of collaboration by Lynch's Government and Special Branch with Scotland Yard.

Lenin on the Rising

Lenin on Ireland, New Books, 2/-.

One of Connolly's worries as he awaited his execution was that he knew that many socialists abroad would not understand why he was involved in what they would disdainfully refer to as a middle-class or petit-bourgeois putsch; and that by his involvement he had, in their eyes, betrayed the socialist cause.

And so it happened. But one man who mattered knew what Connolly was about and praised him. And Lenin's praise and analysis like the interpretation of the Irish situation by Marx and Engels before, was far closer to the full truth than any of Connolly's denigrations.

This year, the centenary of the birth of Lenin, has been fittingly marked by this new publication from New Books, with a fine introduction by A. Rafferty. It includes Lenin's analysis of events in Ireland from 1913/1916: the labour struggles of 1913.

The clarity of Lenin's understanding of the issues at stake, though expressed immediately and from a distance, is in marked contrast to the blindness of those in power who claim that by coming full circle into Free Trade with Britain and finally into the Common Market we will be finally fulfilling the Irish struggle for freedom; the blindness of those who see Wilson as Ireland's friend on the Six-County issue, rather than as the betrayer not only of Ireland's best interests, but, worse still, of the best interests of the English working class. Lenin quotes Marx (1869) with approval on this position:

"Imperialism today can take over a country and its agent will not be a soldier with a gun but a nicely-dressed, soft-spoken young man with a computer."

One does not have to be a full disciple of Marxist-Leninist thought to appreciate that the extent to which capitalism has been resisted - and overthrown in the world, is due in large part to the efforts of Lenin. And for this he must be honoured in this his centenary year. F.O.R.



● James Connolly



● Vladimir Lenin

POLITICAL PRISONERS RELEASE CAMPAIGN

Eamonn Smullen, Gerry Doherty, Conor Lynch, Pat O'Sullivan, Barry Bruton and Alan McIlveney are all serving prison sentences in British jails in connection with alleged attempts to procure arms for the defence of Irish people against the terror that British rule has unleashed in Ireland.

AIM

To demand and obtain the unconditional release of these men.

METHOD

The use of every means to draw the attention of the Irish public to their imprisonment and in particular to the inhuman conditions under which they are held.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

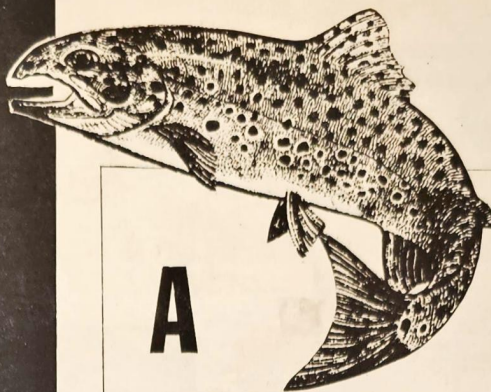
Get your trade union branch, county council, urban district council, cultural, religious, sporting or other organisation to pass resolutions demanding their release. Inform the local and national press and send a copy to the British Home Secretary, c/o Home Office, London S.W.1. Also inform the address below.

Cash contributions urgently needed to help carry out campaign of civil disobedience against British interests in Ireland for the release of these men.

HELP THOSE WHO TRIED TO HELP US

Send your news and contributions to 'Political Prisoners' Release Campaign, c/o 30 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1.

CAST OUT YOUR LINES



A CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY

Cast out your lines and fish! That is the answer to the latest moves by the Fianna Fail Government in collusion with the robber barons who are attempting to counteract the success of the National Waters Restoration League's fish-in campaign. Court prosecutions have been started aimed at scaring off the large public following that this tactic has won for the League's demands. This following has cut across party loyalists (witness the all-party unanimous votes in favour of public ownership on County Councils) and so represents an alliance that threatens the vested interests of Fianna Fail stalwarts like Daniel Stephenson, who owns part of the Slaney.

One fact more than any other which has precipitated these moves is that a major effect of the 'fish-in' campaign has been to reduce the market value of fisheries to their present owners. The market for fisheries is necessarily a small one and therefore very sensitive to a campaign of this nature. Prices of fisheries have begun to fall since the initiation of this campaign and will fall as long as this campaign continues. Therefore, the first aim of the vested interests whose money is tied up in these spurious 'rights' is to somehow strike the 'fish-in' weapon from the hands of the people. Hence the moves by the Ministers for Agriculture and Justice — as servants of these interests — is the establishment of a Commission and the initiation of prosecutions.

The task of the League, in the face of this threat, is:

1. To step up the 'fish-in' campaign for public ownership and explain the aim of the League to as large a public as possible.
2. To make the case against compensation as argued in 'Stolen Waters' and to point out that if the public are to pay for re-possession of what by natural rights is theirs, that the restoration of our national political freedom would thereby be argued as unjustifiable. If hardship is to be pleaded in certain cases, then gratuities, freely given by a magnanimous public, and not compensation, would be what might enter into some cases.
3. To demand the acceptance of Donnchadh Mac Raghnaill, the NWRL nominee, as a member of the Commission; to remind the public that the League is responsible for the existence of the Commission in the first place, and that the denial of a seat to the League is a denial of the right to representation to the concerned public that has supported it.



One of the largest salmon ever landed at a fish-in, this 25 lb. monster was taken from the Boyne near Slane Castle last month during a fish-in organised by the Drogheda branch of the NWRL.

The 26 County Minister for Justice, Mr. O'Morain has joined members of the property-owning ascendancy class in a conspiracy against the people. A memorandum describing a meeting between the Executive Committee of the Council of Boards of Fishery Conservators and Mr. O'Morain has fallen into the hands of the *United Irishman's* fishing correspondent and is reproduced alongside. Present at the meeting were Mr. J. Reade, manager of Barber's Galway fishery, Major C. W. Roberts, representing the Guinness interests in the West of Ireland, C. D. Fitzgerald, a director of the Moy fishery company in Ballina, Radley Searle, representing the Boyne fishery owners, Brigadier Booth and other owners.

Holding the ring was Mr. J. Williams, head of the Fisheries Division of the E.S.B., a semi-state body which the *United Irishman* has refrained from criticising during the progress of the public ownership campaign in the hope that at least it would remain neutral and take no stand in opposition to the public demand for ownership. Mr. Williams' collusion with the owners and the Minister in their felon-setting against their fellow countrymen leaves no room for doubt as to where the established civil servants of the E.S.B. have taken their stand. As they stand so may they fall!

The memorandum shows clearly the role of Fianna Fail in supporting property against the people without seeming to do so. O'Morain's whole concern was that the court cases should not be based on the House of Lords decision of 1901 or that the owners produce their titles in court. Either element would show the Irish public that Irish courts were upholding the British Conquest. The Minister obviously felt that Section 178 of the Fisheries (Consolidation) Act 1959 would better confuse the public as to what was involved and win the day

for the owners and their Fianna Fail servants against the people.

From a reading of the memorandum, it is clear that the Minister accepted without reservation the allegations of assault and threats of arson made by the owners. The Minister unreservedly placed at the disposal of the owners the services of both the Attorney General and the gardai in the attempt to crush the 'fish-in' campaign. Such partisan proceedings have not been known in this country since the Court of Star Chamber.

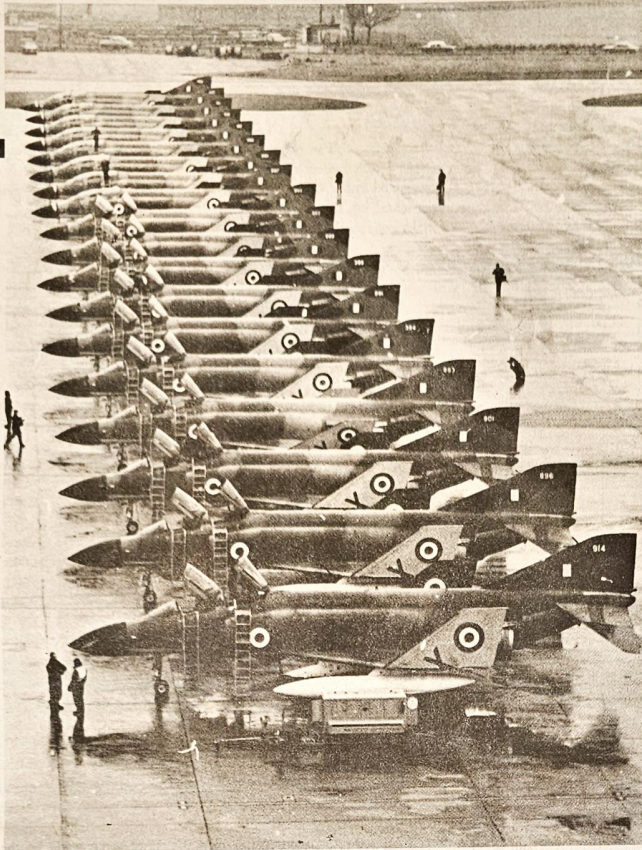
The legislation under which it is now proposed to prosecute, Section 178 of the Fisheries Consolidation Act (1959), is in reality a law that goes back to the balmy imperial days of 1875 and which was incorporated into the 1959 law as it stood.

The Drogheda case referred to in the memorandum, which was to have come up for decision in February of this year, has already been postponed on three occasions at the request of the State — presumably while the Attorney General works out the difference between criminal conspiracy in 1875 and Fianna Fail-owners conspiracy in 1970.

The Drogheda prosecutions are now scheduled for mention in May next — but the result of that case has already been prejudiced by the action of the Minister for Justice and his behind the scene agreement with the owners.

Meanwhile, the answer to the O'Morain conspiracy is to follow the example of the Boyne Valley branch of the National Waters Restoration League — bigger and better 'fish-ins' involving no violence to anybody, either bailiffs, owners of Gardai. This has been the pattern to date and Mr. O'Morain is praying that somehow he can precipitate an incident which will involve supporters of the League and Gardai and lead to prosecutions about breach of the peace.

Read the captured document reproduced on page 7 alongside.



"NATO is not an issue" said Mr. George Colley, 26 County Minister for Industry and Commerce, in UCD last month referring to Fianna Fail's attempt to gain entry to the EEC. "The defence arrangements of the Community have not yet been made" Mr. Colley informed his audience.

This is blatant deceit of the kind we have come to expect from Fianna Fail politicians. They couldn't tell the truth even if their lives depended on it. The facts are that all the EEC countries have been members of a military alliance for more than 20 years — the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. This organisation did not disappear when the EEC came into being. It is still the only military backbone of the EEC countries. Does anyone in Ireland believe that a special military alliance will be set up just to suit Fianna Fail? We doubt it. NATO is and will remain the military alliance of the EEC.

It is obvious that Fianna Fail do not believe their own propaganda. As reported in the United Irishman of October '69, the 26 County military forces are being steadily drawn closer to the NATO bloc. NATO standards are being introduced at all levels of the 26 County army. Uniforms, insignia and weapons are all being changed. Infantry weapons such as the Lee Enfield rifle, Bren light machine-gun and Vickers medium machine-gun are being replaced by, respectively, FN light automatic rifle, FN light machine-gun and FN medium machine-gun made at the Belgian arms factory — Fabrique National d'Armes de Guerre. Mechanised units of the army have been painting their vehicles a different colour recently, from the traditional colour to matt bottle-green, which, by a strange coincidence is also the NATO standard. The government is thus committing its forces to NATO ideas and concepts in preparation for the day when they can safely

NATO IS AN ISSUE

announce their intention of joining this aggressive military alliance.

The NATO group which includes such undemocratic governments as those of Greece and Portugal is not one which would appeal to the Irish people with their democratic traditions yet it is clear that if Fianna Fail succeeds in gaining entry to EEC for the 26 County state we will be stuck with NATO whether we like it or not. This could give rise to interesting situations. For instance if Portugal called on NATO for help in crushing the national liberation movements in the African colonies of Angola or Mozambique we could have 26 County troops fighting alongside Britain and her "Ulster Defence Regiment" helping to retain Portuguese colonies in Africa, a far cry from the 1916 proclamation and the democratic programme of the First Dail.

This is what Lynch and Hillery mean when they say "we are willing to accept the full military and political implications of EEC membership". The Fianna Fail government are therefore willing to abandon the traditional neutrality policy of the 26 County state as part of the price of entry to EEC. Membership of a military alliance may very likely require conscription. This is something which the Irish people have always rejected and which was vigorously opposed when the British tried to introduce it here during the First World War. It must be just as vigorously opposed today. It is interesting to note that Lynch and his government are quite willing to allow Irishmen to be conscripted for foreign wars on behalf of the NATO bloc and yet are completely opposed to Irishmen who organise for the defence of the Irish people in the Six Counties against official terror there.

Dr. Hillery in an interview in the *Irish Times* last month said that the only reason Fianna Fail did not join NATO at the beginning was because of the provision in the NATO treaty that all members recognise each others frontiers. This would mean recognition by Fianna Fail of Britain's claim to sovereignty over the Six Counties. This provision is still intact in the NATO treaty and it is also part of the Treaty of Rome, which Fianna Fail are anxious to sign as soon as possible. Do Kevin Boland and Neil Blaney know about this? It will be interesting to see how the "Republican Party" solves the contradiction.

The following is extracted directly from the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council of Boards of Fishery Conservators held on January 21, 1970:

ATTENDANCE: Major C. W. Roberts (Chairman), Messrs. J. Williams ESB (Vice-Chairman), C. D. Fitzgerald, P. J. O'Connell, L. Ward, O. G. P. Hanley, J. Reade (deputising for D. S. Barber who could not attend owing to illness), R. P. Hilliard, Radley Searle, Brigadier Booth and P. B. Kenny, Secretary.

Minutes: . . . Minister for Justice.

Mr. Williams referred to a meeting on January 6, 1970 which he and the Chairman had with (the) Minister and assistant Secretary of his Department regarding the Fish-in in Drogheda as described by Mr. Radley Searle, at the Executive Committee Meeting on December 9, 1969. The Minister's initial reaction was that private should take steps to preserve their property. The State was anxious to support an owner of a fishery against trespass and interference with his waterkeepers. The Attorney General was taking action against those responsible for the "Fish-ins" in Drogheda. To bring a criminal conspiracy charge would be preferable but this would be based on a House of Lords decision of 1901 in a fishery case and involve the production of a title. The Minister was not inclined (to) rely on that decision for the purpose of a fishery prosecution. In his view it would be better to obtain

O MORAIN PLOTS WITH RIVER LORDS

a conviction for a criminal conspiracy regarding private property in an Irish Court and apply that decision to a fishery prosecution with the resultant avoidance of title production. The Minister was made aware that future "fish-ins" were contemplated and that under the existing fishery code, the waterkeepers of the Board's involved were unable to enforce the law unless with resulting violence.

Mr. Reade said that he was threatened with physical violence. He had instructed his waterkeepers (to refrain) from taking action during "fish-ins" at Galway for fear of causing bloodshed.

Mr. Radley Searle referred to the intimidation of waterkeepers in the Drogheda area. Private individuals were being threatened with arson.

Procedure for Boards

The Attorney General is proceeding in the Drogheda case under Section 178 of the Fisheries Consolidation Act 1959, under which the same powers are vested in Boards of Conservators.

Owing to the inability of the waterkeepers under the present circumstances to exercise their powers under the section in question where "fish-ins" (A) are taking place, or (B) are contemplated, the Chairman and Committee strongly suggests the following procedure for adoption—In the case of (B) above the Chairman of the Board inform the local Superintendent of the Garda Síochána of what is contemplated and ask him if he is prepared to have a force of Gardaí present while the waterkeepers take the names and addresses of the persons involved, the presence of the Gardaí being intended to avoid trouble. In the case of (A) above the Superintendent should be asked if the Gardaí can be called on to be present when the waterkeepers try to carry out their duties.

Note: The Clerk of each Board is requested to bring to the notice of his Board the contents of the foregoing paragraph. It will enable him to be fully aware of the assistance available for the enforcement of the law.

In the middle of last year the CRA decided to launch a covenant of civil rights. By this means the people of the Six Counties were to lay the outstanding demands of the movement at the doorstep of those ultimately responsible for their denial, the Westminster Government. It was about August that the campaign for signatures was getting under way when the people's attention was turned almost solely to the vital need for self defence. Furthermore Callaghan's attempt to take the edge off the Northern crisis in October with his package deal offering half a loaf meant that the form of the covenant had to be altered to take account of this. At the recent AGM therefore, the outgoing executive put at the top of its list of recommendations a new covenant, the promotion of which would effectively demonstrate, in the face of unionist and British claims to the contrary, that civil rights had not yet been won.

What, however, many people ask, is the point of requesting Westminster as the source of the problem to solve it?

The Civil Rights' Association has itself effectively answered this. The call for a Bill of Rights (entailing an amendment to the Government of Ireland Act) is a clear slogan full of political meaning. It presents a single issue and not a series of disconnected ones.

If passed, civil rights will in future not be dependent on Stormont alone or the presence of a Labour Government at Westminster. Repressive legislation such as Special Powers and Public Order Acts will be negated by the provisions for freedom of speech, publication and assembly.

In the present situation there is an urgent need for a political lead in the North. Otherwise there may be more spontaneous violence which, this time with the weakness of the "liberal" unionists, could lead to direct rule and a Westminster diktat which the democratic forces could not influence. A covenant, however, with its broadbased demands offers opportunities to work in a way which will minimise sectarianism and invite the support of all six county citizens. It actively involves masses of people in clearly submitting an ultimatum to Westminster and educates them in the relevant issues.

Nor will the activity be confined to Northern Ireland alone. Already in Britain a complementary petition for a Bill of Rights is being circulated among Irish and British democrats by a joint committee comprised of Movement for Colonial Freedom, National Council of Civil Liberties, Connolly Association, Campaign for Social Justice, Birmingham and Coventry, Campaign for Democracy in Ulster. This area of influence could be quite important in British election year given the influential Irish vote and support of some Labour backbenchers. It should be said that "The Irish Post" the new general newspaper of the Irish in Britain has already given considerable publicity to this. Similar projects are in the process of being launched by various emigrant organisations in other countries directed at their local British representatives.

The plan of campaign in Northern Ireland is one far removed from the dismal task of merely collecting signatures from door to door. It is intended that the new CRA apparatus of regional and branch associations pivoting around the central body will ensure a Six County-wide display of solidarity at public meetings. Working in conjunction with trade unions and Citizen's defence and peace committees, Civil Rights groups hope to organise a series of covenant days at various centres which could be at one and the same time festive occasions and an impressive gesture of determination to win our objects. Sponsors for the covenant are to be sought among prominent people in the community including church leaders. Everybody is to be given a clear chance to endorse or reject the idea of a democratic society.

Close liaison is to be maintained with opposition MPs and to date several meetings towards this end have taken place with favourable outcome. One of the things that has been suggested to them by the CRA is pressing at parliamentary level for the Stormont Government to publicly clarify its position on a Bill of Rights being incorporated into the Government of Ireland Act. It will be interesting to see how the architect of reform, Chichester Clarke formulates his objections.

At the conclusion of the campaign the collected covenants will be taken by the executive committee of NICRA to Westminster with stops along the way to collect complementary petitions at centres such as Liverpool and Birmingham.

By then what the covenant campaign will have made clear to the people of Ireland, Britain and the world is, not does Northern Ireland lack civil rights, but are they to be conceded or are they not?



● A now familiar scene in Derry these days: "impartial" British Troops' "peace-making" operation against trouble-making civilians, who no doubt spend their day thinking up new ways of upsetting the "peace" which Wilson and Callaghan have brought to "troubled Ulster". Note the presence of a "Commonwealth" citizen in British uniform. This is to show the world that the Wilson Government does not practice racial discrimination when hiring mercenaries for service in the colonies.

A BILL OF RIGHTS



EEC AGRICULTURE

The ground—or to be more exact, the land—is being prepared for entry into the Common Market with the announcement of new regulations by the 26 County Minister for Lands, Mr. Flanagan, which will enable foreigners to buy land without restriction around 58 towns in the 26 Counties.

The corner-stone of Common Market philosophy is the free movement of capital, goods and labour within the Market area. Translated into concrete terms, this means that the land of Ireland, and the property and people thereon, will be up for the highest bidder.

Mr. Flanagan's land order is significant in that the European Commission (the supreme power in the Common Market) has proposed recently that anybody anywhere in a Common Market country must be allowed to buy land in any other Common Market country. Money is the only qualification. Rather

a different qualification from that of Fintan Lalor: "The soil of Ireland for the people of Ireland . . . to have and to hold for them and their heirs forever . . ."

While the long-term purpose of the new freedom to speculate is to pave the

way for the mass speculation of the Common Market, it is recognised that there will be other and more immediate results which will be felt right away.

For instance, Mr. Flanagan's announcement says that the new regulation "will add to the convenience of the business community and the legal profession by obviating the necessity for Land Commission consent to transactions involving properties in these towns". Which means that the auction-

ing and legal sharks (of which Mr. Flanagan himself is one), and the speculators—foreign and native—for whom they operate, must be given every facility to suck blood.

These 58 towns will now be hit by the soaring prices of land and houses which are already crushing the lives of those living in the larger towns and cities.

Indeed, Dublin is going to be severely affected since some of the towns listed are, in fact, suburbs of Dublin (Blanchardstown, Clondalkin, Malahide, Swords, Tallaght, Lucan) where the price of land and houses is already rocketing, and must now go even higher.

The towns affected are:

The E.E.C. is based on free competition in industry but a highly protected agricultural system. The reason for this is that farmers in the Six, and particularly in France and Germany, are still politically very powerful. The E.E.C. Common Agricultural Policy is based on controlling foreign food imports and boosting home production of food, but at a gigantic cost to the consumers of the E.E.C. countries.

This has led to huge surpluses of milk and butter and beef accumulating in the storehouses of the E.E.C. and the E.E.C. is now proposing to get rid of these by getting rid of the farmers who produce them.

There is clearly nothing of advantage in this set-up for the vast majority of Irish farmers. To long for the high-price Common Market food policy, as the Irish National Farmers' Association is doing, is to build castles in the air. Everyone knows that if Britain negotiates Common Market membership one of her main aims will be to get the expensive Common Market Agricultural Policy abandoned.

Once enough of the farmers are cleared off the land in Europe and it becomes politically possible to ignore them, the other Common Market countries will certainly abandon the dear food policy and go over to a cheap food one, such as the British have at present. For industrialists and city workers benefit from having cheap food; it keeps labour costs down and prices low. If Ireland joins E.E.C. for the sake of better agricultural prices—the main advantage EEC holds out for Ireland—we would find we had bought a pup, as the Big Powers change their policy after a while to suit their industrial interests.

In the short run, however, the Common Market Agricultural Policy will rocket the housewife's food bill . . . Steak at 15/- a lb., butter at 8/-, sugar at 1/10. The cost of basic food items would jump 20% if we join the E.E.C. and put an intolerable burden on the mass of working-class and low income Irish households.

The rules of the Common Market forbid the Government of any member State discriminating in favour of its own nationals by means of grant or subsidy. Citizens of all member States must be treated equally and there must be "free competition" on the same basis from Naples to Navan and from Brussels to Ballaghaderreen.

That is what the Rome Treaty says, and we sign the Rome Treaty if Ireland joins the E.E.C.

This means in plain words that most of the subsidies now received by Irish farmers would have to be abandoned if we joined the Common Market, because subsidies and grants interfere with "free competition", good old capitalist laissez-faire,—the economic cut-throat jungle, or the devil take the hindmost!

Here are the principal subsidies that must go . . .

- Subsidies on milk and bacon.
- Lime and fertiliser subsidy.
- The calved heifer subsidy.
- Sow and mountain sheep subsidy.

In 1969 these subsidies brought £40 million altogether into the pockets of Irish farmers. They are well-deserved and it is quite right that Irish farmers should get them, for farming is our most vital single industry and the people of the land are still in many ways the backbone of Ireland.

But that £40 million would no longer get to the farmer if Ireland joins E.E.C. Have you read about that in the Irish Farmers' Journal, or have you heard about it from the other people who are plugging and pushing the E.E.C. these days? You can bet your life you haven't, for Irish farmers are not being told the truth. No more than the Irish people as a whole are being told the truth about this rich man's club to rook small nations and the ordinary folk of Europe.

The cattlemen of Meath see the chance of a few £s more for their bullocks in the E.E.C., even if only for the short while the food policy continues to exist. High prices for the bullock first, they say, and the devil take everything else.

But everything else includes the mass of the Irish countryside, who must lose themselves now and say NO to the E.E.C.

Abbeyfeale, Abbeyleix, Athenry, Bailieboro', Ballaghaderreen, Ballinrobe, Ballybofey, Ballybunion, Ballyhaunis, Banagher, Blanchardstown, Blarney.

Cahir, Caherciveen, Carndonagh, Carrick-on-Shannon, Castlemore, Donaguile, Castleisland, Castlereagh, Celbridge, Clara, Clarendon, Clifden, Clondalkin.

Dingle, Donegal, Dunmanway, Ennistymon, Gort, Graigueamanagh-Tinnahinch, Greystones-Delgany.

Kanturk, Kenmare, Kildare, Killorglin, Killybegs, Kilmallock, Lucan-Doddsboro'.

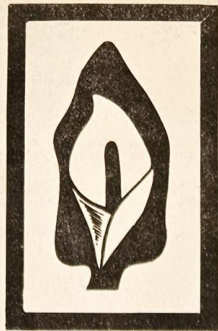
Malahide, Maynooth, Millstreet, Mitchelstown, Moate, Monasterevan, Mourat, Moville.

Portlanning, Portlaur, Rathdrum, Rathluir, Roscrea, Rush, Skerries, Swinford, Swords, Tallaght, Thomasstown, Tullow.

LAND SPECULATION

way for the mass speculation of the Common Market, it is recognised that there will be other and more immediate results which will be felt right away.

For instance, Mr. Flanagan's announcement says that the new regulation "will add to the convenience of the business community and the legal profession by obviating the necessity for Land Commission consent to transactions involving properties in these towns". Which means that the auction-



EASTER 1970

The Republican Movement paid tribute to the men of 1916 in commemorations in all 32 Counties over the Easter weekend. The most massive parades were, as expected, in the North with Derry in the lead with up to 20,000 people participating. Belfast also had a large turn-out.

Derry

The oration in Derry was given by Tomas Mac Giolla, Uachtaran Sinn Fein, in the Guildhall square.

In his address, Tomas Mac Giolla said:

You people of Derry, and in particular the youth of Derry, can be justly proud of the part you have played in the past two years to uphold the Democratic principles enshrined in the Proclamation and to claim equality of rights. The Civil Rights movement has forced an element of democracy from an autocratic structure and those who have fattened on the sectarian divisions of the working class for generations are today confused and divided and their hitherto divine right to govern is being threatened by both the Catholic and Protestant working class.

The fact is that the threat from the Protestant workers and small farmers is under right wing reactionary leadership is unfortunate, but when the power of the establishment is broken the workers will see that religious sectarianism is irrelevant and that so also is the union with Britain. Both Unionism and religious sectarianism benefit only the Establishment class. The interests of all workers are identical irrespective of their creed or colour. Those interests are best served by uniting to gain control of the wealth and wealth producing processes of the Nation — in this case the Irish Nation. Labour in Ireland must overcome capital in Ireland and the power of capital is enormously strengthened by the union with Britain. It is therefore in the interests of all workers, small farmers and men of no property to smash the union with Britain and to break the grip of British imperial rule in Ireland.

Dublin

Cathal Goulding, speaking in Glasnevin, warned the movement against the dead-end of abstract nationalism: "Before we can lead the people to an objective, we must believe in one ourselves, for a revolutionary movement without a revolutionary objective is an impossibility. This we must insist on from each other and particularly today when the fashionable preaching of opportunism goes hand in hand with an infatuation for narrow and more colourful forms of activity. Also, it is not enough to claim 'de Jure' powers of government, it is not enough to shout slogans and quote dead leaders as though such incantations would or could produce successful leadership of a people devolves on those who are able and prepared to lead and not on those who possess a dead formula."

We cannot therefore justify our existence as a movement by a simple faith in the morality or the 'de Jure-ness' of our position. Faith, we are told in another context, is dead without good works. The same holds good for Republicanism. We must work to justify our claim to revolutionary leadership.

While we must deplore the present crisis within our ranks we must insist that nobody can, or should, bind the movement to any one form of struggle. We must see that it is suicidal for us to

adopt abstract formulas and doctrinaire recipes. We must recognise all forms of struggle and not confine ourselves to the form of struggle inherited, or possible, or in existence at a given moment. As new social, political, economic and other crises arise, so also will other forms of struggle. Therefore members of the movement must do their utmost to ensure that no individual differences over the interpretation and methods of realising the principles of the organisation's programme shall interfere with, or disrupt, any work that is being carried on under the direction of the leadership of the movement.

Dungiven

Five hundred people marched to the graves of Volunteer Gilmartin and Volunteer Carolan in Dungiven, Co. Derry. The oration was given by Sean O Cionnaith.

The Loup

This Co. Derry Commemoration was attended by over two thousand people. The IRA Easter Statement was read by Francis Donnelly and the oration was given by Sean O Cionnaith.

Armagh

Easter Monday in Armagh saw five thousand people participate in the Commemoration Parade which had an advance guard of men from the Falls Road, Belfast, led by Jim Sullivan. Oration was by Sean O Cionnaith. Also in attendance were Tomas Mistel and Seamas Costello from Ard Comhairle Sinn Fein.

Waterford

Parade assembled at the GPO where the proclamation was read by Michael

O'Brien. Following this about 300 marched behind a Colour Party and the T. F. Meagher Fife and Drum Band to Ballygunner cemetery where wreaths were laid on the Republican Plot and Last Post and Reveille sounded. Chief Marshal was Michael Dunphy. Chairman was Sean Kelly.

The oration was given by Seamas O Reachtagain, Ard-Chisdeoir, Sinn Fein, in the course of which he said:

The same Lords of the Conquest who held sway before 1916 are still in control of lands, fisheries and Ground Rents throughout Ireland. British control of Irish industry is being strengthened and extended. A new political sell-out is being planned, a sort of Royal Irish Republic which will be merged with a Federal United Kingdom. Another trick by British Imperialism and their lackeys, Fianna Fail, attempting to fool the Irish people into thinking that full freedom has been achieved.

As we have seen in the North, the course of history will inevitably bring about conditions and opportunities which make possible major victories in the struggle for freedom, but, no victories can be achieved without the mobilisation of the people in democratic organisations and movements geared to take advantage of these historical conditions and opportunities. Therefore, the need at present is for Republicans and others who wish to establish national independence to, devote all energies to the fight against Imperialist interests, North and South, by means of Land Leagues, Fisheries Campaigns, Industrial Action, Housing Action Groups, Anti-Ground Rent Campaigns and to pursue these campaigns to the full limit of effectiveness. This way only can we finish the job begun by the men of 1916.

Connacht

Five Commemorations were held in Connacht on Easter Sunday. In the morning wreath-laying ceremonies were held at the Loughname Brothers Memorial at Kinvara, Co. Galway and at the Republican Plot in Galway City. In the afternoon Commemorations were held in Ballina, Co. Mayo, Uachtaran Ard, Co. na Gaillimhe, and in Sligo Town.

Clare

The commemoration was held in Inagh, Co. Clare at the grave of Captain T. Maloney who was killed by Free State Forces in 1923. The IRA Statement was read by M. J. Glynn, Ennistymon. Mairin de Burca, Ard Runai, Sinn Fein, gave the oration:

When we force British troops out of the North we will at the same time have to ensure that the economic and social systems they foisted on this country is also destroyed. If we fail to do this we will have simply created a 32 county Fianna Fail state free of the physical presence of British troops but tied hand and foot to Britain by her control of wealth producing processes within the Nation. It will then be necessary for another generation to make the final fight against British Imperialism.

There must be no question of leaving the final fight to the next or any generation but ours. If our revolution is not successful in the next decade at least there will be no Irish Nation to restore. Our language will be dead, our culture buried under the weight of Anglo-American trash, our laws will be made in Brussels, our young men conscripted into the Army to fight for one European bloc against another, according to the Mansholt plan for agriculture in the Common Market five million small farmers will be put off the land, the whole West of Ireland will become one great ranch whilst our people work in factories in Dresden or Birmingham. If this generation does not win our freedom once and for all Ireland as a Nation after 800 years of struggle will finally disappear.

Belfast

Led by a Colour Party and the John Mitchel Youth Band from Newry, the Belfast Republicans marched to Milltown Cemetery where the ceremony was held and Malachy McBurnie delivered the oration. Mr. McBurnie, in the course of his oration said: "The forces of Imperialism are still as strong today in Ireland as they were in 1916. In the North the military occupation is but one facet of British Imperialism, and since the August troubles the English jackboot struts the streets of our cities and towns. Here it stands naked and exposed, and is clearly seen and understood."

"But a much more subtle and sinister occupation has taken place in the 26 Counties. From 1958, when the Fianna Fail Government ceased to insist on 51% of all industry being in the hands of the Irish people, the sell-out to foreign monopolies has accelerated. Allied to this is the continued sell-out of our land and rivers, the control of our fisheries by the Commanders, Majors and Colonels of the British Empire, and the continued grip on Irish property by the descendants of the original Conquest Lords. This facet of British Imperialism is not so clearly seen or understood."



RELEASE THE PRISONERS



During the recent takeover of the Dublin B.E.A. office by Republicans from Belfast, Derry and Dublin, Sean O'Connell received a long distance telephone call from a distressed official of Bord Fáilte Éireann in Birmingham begging him to call off the demonstration and to think of the effect on the tourist trade of such demonstrations.

The Birmingham telephone call brings to mind the warning issued last year by Dr. Tim O'Driscoll, head of Bord Fáilte, before the worst of the August fighting in the North. He warned that the potential tourist could not readily discriminate between North and South and that the disturbances were having an adverse effect on the tourist trade. Not surprisingly, however, the oppressed people of the North decided in favour of Civil Rights and rejected the O'Driscoll philosophy of the Golden Calf of Tourism. Indeed, a rejection by hotel workers generally of the strictures by O'Driscoll on the Bernadette Devlin speech criticising the conditions under which so many of them work might knock a few more spots off the same sacred animal.

But to business. It is inevitable, as the campaign to release the prisoners proceeds, that the tourist trade will begin to get concerned.

Not without reason. Those campaigning for the release of the prisoners know from experience that no matter how often it is repeated that a demonstration involving a British institution in Ireland involves no insult to English people as individuals, the resulting publicity fails to discriminate in this very fine point of emphasis. Republicans are opposed to British rule in Ireland and the imprisonment of Irishmen in English jails: hence the demonstrations.

But now the tourist season is upon us. The campaign for the release of the prisoners is escalating all over the country. Lynch and O'Sullivan have suffered for almost a year now. No damage is intended to tourism. But it can occur.

So we say to Dr. O'Driscoll and the trade. Remember the forward planning you speak so much about. Don't wait until it is too late to complain about the possible effects of the campaign. Don't ask us to choose between our comrades in prison and the Golden Calf. The Northern precedent should be sufficient warning. Blood is thicker than water.

If we would give advice it is this. Speak up now. If the Golden Calf would give a collective moo in the right ear, perhaps the men now living in the twilight of English prison cells could be free in time to enjoy an August holiday in Lakeland, Ivernia, or the sunny South East.

Remember, it is British rule in Ireland and Britain's support of the machinery of Unionist tyranny in the North that has these men in prison. They have got jailed for trying to do something about the situation there. Messrs. Boland and Blaney, whose colleague Mr. O'Morain sent over the felon-setting file against Smullen, are getting votes for merely mouthing about the situation in the North.

If their mouthings cannot adversely affect the tourist trade, neither should the little bit of activity connected with the release campaign.

But to be quite sure of it, why not speak up now?

● Mick Somerville gets an encouraging word from an old woman following his arrest outside the seized B.E.A. office.

Ar an ocaid seo, comórach 54u bliain Éirí Amach stairiúil 1916, gúidheann cennairí Oglagha na hÉireann beatha agus slainte ar Éireannaigh uile, idir fir is mna, sa bhaile no i dtíortha i gcéin. As an am seo, breathnaimid ar imeachtaí agus gníomhaíochtaí na bliana seo caite, agus deánaimid dul-chun-cinn an naisiúla Éireannach a ainmeáil. Breathnaimid, freisin, ar chomh fada is ata aithneamha agus idealacha fir 1916 curtha a gcrích. Feicimid, afach, nach a Forogra 1916 ata i réim in Éirinn inniu ach Acht Cridheghilte 1920.

The struggle for the achievement of democratic rights in the North has set a pattern and a guideline which may be followed in other spheres of the struggle for national liberation. It is obvious that the struggle on a set of agreed objectives can achieve spectacular results. Republicans must now take the lead in uniting all progressive national groups and organisations behind a programme for the reconquest of Ireland by the mass of the Irish people. There are many steps on the road to such a conquest, and every step achieved is progress towards our objective. But the struggle for civil rights in the North also taught us that any mass struggle of the future must make provision for the defence of the people.

The Irish Republican Army has been much criticised by consistent enemies of Republicanism for its alleged failure to defend the people of Belfast from attacks by the RUC, B Specials and UVF in two large-scale campaigns against British troops in the past 25 years. It has been consistently and ruthlessly hounded by three governments; its members have been shot

and hanged, interned and jailed, by the Belfast, London and Dublin governments. Only a miracle of dedication to the cause of Irish freedom has enabled the IRA to exist. In that period we have suffered great losses of armaments, and in our efforts to re-equip ourselves we did not always get the co-operation even of self-styled Republicans, many of whom are now free with their criticism. The leadership of the IRA is only too well aware of the inadequacy of the weapons available in Belfast for the enormous task which faced our units on the nights of the 14th and 15th of August.

We must now place on record, however, the heroic manner in which the Belfast volunteers fought in the people's defence with what weapons were available to them. One young member of Fianna Éireann was killed and several volunteers were wounded by gunfire during the course of these two nights. The people of Belfast know that but for the fight put up by these men against enormous odds, there would have been many repetitions of Bombay Street. But outside of Belfast, they received little credit or recognition for their gallant fight. The lie is repeated by the press, radio and television, that Republicans played no part in the defence of the people. Let those who have been so quick with their criticism now help the IRA to equip itself with modern weapons, to ensure that it will never again ask men to face armoured cars with short-arrows.

The Irish Republican Army is the army of the people. It must be the protector of the people's rights and the spearhead of their struggle for justice. The people must regard it as their own, and not as a remote organisation which is interested in fighting only one

IRA Easter Statement

fact of British imperialism: her occupation troops. The people of the 26 Counties must realise that British imperialism is strong in their midst, and is a growing force which is strangling the Irish nation. Even if British troops and British administrative machinery were withdrawn from the Six Counties, British imperialism could retain its control through its economic and cultural penetration and its manipulation of its puppets in Belfast and in Dublin. The fight against British imperialism is therefore a 32-county one. We must no longer look on the North as the only battleground. We also have a battle on our own doorstep. The North has led the way in the current revolutionary struggle against British imperialism, but the South has been left far behind. The best help that those in the South can give today to the North is to radicalise and revolutionise society in the 26 Counties in the way it has been done in the North. It is just as essential to smash the iron grip of the neo-ascendancy clique who are now in control in

the 26 Counties as it is to smash the grip of the Unionist ascendancy class on the Protestant people. The Tory Flanna Fail government uses the same system of patronage and jobbery in housing and employment as the Unionists, and it is even more corrupt. It works just as closely with Britain in all economic and political matters as the Unionist government does. This is indicated by the fact that Mr. Oliver Wright, Britain's special representative at Stormont for the past six months, paid frequent visits to Dublin to co-ordinate the policies of all three governments. The 26-County government further proved their loyalty to Britain in recent trials when the Minister for Justice, Mr. O'Morain, sent documents to the Home Office which helped to convict Lynch and O'Sullivan, and more recently sent a Special Branch file on Eamon Smullen to the Leeds court which ensured his conviction and sentence to eight years imprisonment. This collaboration with Britain against Irishmen must be exposed and ended.

The Westminster government have always played an opportunistic role in Ireland, and it is now evident that they are prepared to sell the Unionists down the river, provided that by doing so they can achieve a new structure or a new deal which will enable them to increase their trade and economic investment in Ireland. Britain is at present working out a new constitutional relationship between Ireland as a whole and Britain. Her objective is to gain greater control over the 26-County area which is becoming increasingly important to her in terms of trade. She will therefore be prepared to make some concessions to the Flanna Fail government in regard to the North in exchange for closer union with Britain under some type of federal structure. The free-trade agreement was in line with this strategy, and by joining the EEC and NATO Ireland would gradually become more closely tied to British policy. It is vital to the whole future of the Irish nation that this British strategy be exposed and that a national campaign be launched, north and south, against the EEC and against any political or economic agreements which place the future of the Irish people at the mercy of British imperial interests.

The unity and independence of Ireland and the liberation of her people is our primary objective, and only the Republican Movement has the capacity and the will to lead the people in the struggle for its achievement. A division in Republican ranks helps only Ireland's enemies: British imperialism, Unionism, and Free Stateism. This decade may well decide the future of the Irish nation for many decades to come. It may well decide whether or not there

will be an Irish nation. In this perspective, our internal difficulties on tactical questions are of small importance, however large they may seem in people's minds at present. We have a great responsibility to the Irish people at this time of political, social and economic turmoil in both the North and the South, the East and the West. History will judge us harshly if we shirk our responsibilities and face each other rather than the enemy. The Army Council therefore call on all Republicans to do their utmost to achieve unity in our ranks. We on our part have undertaken to direct all our shafts at the enemy and have refrained from any criticisms or controversies which might engender bitterness or deepen existing divisions. If we cannot have immediate unity of all Republicans, let us at least strive for maximum co-operation between them in the struggle for the emancipation of our people and the reconquest of the wealth and resources of our country.

There is a fight in progress: the fight against British imperialism. The fight is at present being waged on the social, economic and cultural fronts, and it is essential that we involve the broad mass of the Irish people in this, their own fight. If we fail to do this, then it will not be possible for us to mobilise the people or victory in the necessary and inevitable confrontation in military struggle with the forces of British imperialism. Therefore our call for support in the present phase of the struggle is as important as the call to arms for the final fight to eliminate British imperialism from Ireland, and to unite the Catholic and Protestant workers and small farmers in a democratic socialist republic.

An t-Eireannach Aontaithe

Published by Republican Publications,
30 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1.

Fon: 41045

Aibreán, 1970

Is í An Phoblacht ár gcuspóir.

"Profits" and
"Inflation"

In a message to the Ecumenical Council in 1964 a group of French worker-Priests stated:

"The class struggle is not a theory: life itself creates the struggle. In our world money is the principal source of rights and authority. When a man is compelled to 'look for work' in order to live, when he must beg for a job from the owners of the means of production who can either give work or refuse it, that man, his life, his conscience, his very personality become victims of the economic system."

"The life of the worker, that of his children, their right to education and culture and all that is really human — even his right to live and eat — is to the profit of others. He feels that he has become an object to be used by those who have money. This is really exploitation of man by man, of one class by another."

Having participated in factory life the French worker-Priests saw the reality of capitalist exploitation, the subordination of workers to the great god PROFIT. In Ireland, the spokesmen of the Employer Class, Mr. Donal Carroll, Mr. Guy Jackson, Fianna Fáil Ministers, bought-off Trade Union Officials, have been trumpeting over the length and breadth of the land in recent weeks in a massive effort designed to convince the workers that the god PROFIT does not really exist, that he is only an illusion which is used by agitators and troublemakers to cause disruption for their own evil ends, and if only "responsible" Trade Union officials would explain this to their members point out that Donal Carroll and Guy Jackson did not get their big limousines from PROFIT but from their Fairy Godmother at Christmas, everything would be alright and the Big Bosses could get on with the job of making the workers more prosperous than ever before.

Who do they think they're fooling? What capitalist undertaking would stay in existence without taking PROFIT? What PROFIT would there be without the labour and sweat of the working people in the towns and on the land? The answer to both questions is: NONE. The only thing capitalists are interested in is in making maximum profits at the expense of the workers. When they see the prospect of their takings being diminished by the successful wage claims of organised labour they drag out the bogey of INFLATION in an effort to intimidate labour. They squeal and rail at every wage demand and accuse the workers of damaging the "national interest" which in reality is the FUE interest. They threaten unemployment if they are forced to concede wage claims. They demand that their Parliamentary puppets, Fianna Fáil, curb organised labour by introducing repressive anti-Trade union legislation which will ban "unofficial" strikes and make picketing illegal. They use INFLATION as a weapon to cut back the standard of living of the working people, by increasing prices to off-set wage increases. They demand cuts in the lower income groups most. They speculate in the lives, work, and future of thousands of human beings and are ready to sacrifice them all for the sake of PROFIT. They have sold out and are selling out the wealth and resources of Ireland to alien interests. They care not one whit for the Irish Language or Cultural Heritage.

The road forward for organised labour is clear; we must fight tooth and nail any attempts to curb the Trade Unions' freedom to organise. We must preserve and defend the workers' right to withdraw his labour at any time he sees fit. We must struggle to prevent price increases which undermine wage gains. We must use the resources of the Trade Union Movement to educate the workers in their own interest and enable them to refute the insulting propaganda of the FUE. Only then will we be worthy followers of James Connolly and only then will we be able to do true honour to the sacrifices of 1913 and 1916.



BOGSIDE REPUBLICAN APPEAL

The Republican Movement in the Bogside district of Derry appeals to all members and sympathisers to give their financial support towards purchasing land to build a Republican Hall which is desperately needed to facilitate an ever increasing membership.

All donations should be sent to: Bogside Republican Appeal Fund, c/o United Irishman, 30 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1.

Sligo
demand
release

A large crowd attended a public meeting in Sligo recently in support of the public demand for the release of the six prisoners in English prisons. Speakers included Eoin O'Murchu, Seamas Reid, Paul Jennings, Declan Bree and Bressal O'Caolain.

During the meeting a British flag with a picture of Jack Lynch, an Taoiseach, was burned as a protest against the collaboration of both the English and Irish governments in the conviction of some of the men.

Eoin O'Murchu said that the Fianna Fáil government had abandoned all pretence of an independent position and was openly collaborating in the exploitation of the Irish people by the agents of foreign imperialism and in the brutal suppression of our efforts to defend ourselves. An t-Uas O'Murchu also said that the Fianna Fáil government had shown itself time and time again to be the loyal and trusty servant of its

Swanton
remembered

A Commemoration to honour the memory of Volunteer Desmond Swanton took place at St. Finbarr's Cemetery, Cork, on St. Patrick's Day. The parade to the graveside was headed by a colour party provided by the Desmond Swanton Commemoration Committee. A wreath was laid by Mr. Jerry Madden on behalf of the committee. Mr. John Madden laid a wreath on the behalf of the Republican Movement. Last Post and Reveille were sounded and two pipers from the Volunteer Pipe Band played a lament. Desmond Swanton, who was for some time attached to an active service column during the Campaign of Resistance in the Six Counties in the fifties, was killed in an explosion at the Republican Plot, St. Finbarr's Cemetery, on St. Patrick's Day, 1963. He was aged 23 at the time.

MASS

Mass will be offered on Sunday, April 12, at 10.45 a.m., at the Franciscan Church, Merchant's Quay, Dublin, for the repose of the souls of Tony D'Arcy, Sean McNeela and Sean Martin, whose anniversaries occur about this time.

D. Mac Giolla
Phadraig

BOOKSELLER AND
STATIONER
12 Cathedral Street
Dublin

CASTLE HOTEL

Mr. and Mrs. Donal O'Connor
(Props.)

FIRST CLASS CATERING
CENTRAL SITUATION
TERMS MODERATE

Personal Supervision

GARDINER ROW,
DUBLIN

Phone 36949 and 42554.

Hot and Cold Water
in all Bedrooms

Free Garage Accommodation



● Eoin O'Murchu ag labhairt ag an geombiascach sa Spideál le déanaí.

British masters. "The 26 County Special Branch openly notified their counterparts in England that Irish Republicans had gone there, and deliberately sent over a file from the 'forties which resulted in the vicious sentence of eight years for Eamon Smullen'."

A call to bring pressure on the government to secure the early release of the six prisoners was made by Seamus Reid. He said that their only crime was to try to secure arms for their fellow Irishmen in the six occupied counties to defend their homes and be prepared for future hostilities against them by B Specials, R.U.C., U.V.F. and all the so-called law and order in the North.

"Mr. Flanagan", continued Mr. Reid, "at a meeting in Trinity College was quite adamant in his refusal to

contribute to the campaign to free these lads. But what could you expect from a crony of Mr. O'Morain, the famous or infamous Minister for Justice, who is still trying to foist the controversial Criminal Justice Bill on the people of this country, an excuse for again opening up the internment camp at the Carragh.

"He is indeed following in the footsteps of his predecessor of the 'forties, Gerry Boland and of the great Fianna Fáil 'Republican' Neil Blaney, who came to the limelight some months ago to suit his own purpose, no doubt, when he advocated republicanism to the people of Donegal and Derry. We did not hear his voice again raised against the savage and inhuman sentences passed on these Republicans'."

Mr. Reid concluded by call-

ing on the people of Sligo to exert pressure on their elected representatives to campaign for the release of the prisoners. He also asked the G.A.A. and other local bodies to draft resolutions for their release.

G. J. GINTY

MONUMENTAL
SCULPTOR



Branch Yard—
Castle Street,
Cork.
Phone: Cork 277.

KILLARA ROAD, BALLINA.

PHONE: BALLINA 144

Do you have difficulty getting your copy of the United Irishman regularly?

For a yearly subscription of 15/- you can have a copy delivered promptly by post each month.

Cheques or postal orders should be made payable to:

THE UNITED IRISHMAN, 30 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1.

NAME

ADDRESS

APPEAL TO AMERICA

Concerned Americans wishing to contribute funds to help the struggle in the Six Counties or to volunteer active help in organisation work in America should contact:

The National Association for Irish Justice

210 EAST 23rd STREET, NEW YORK N.Y.

Phone: (212) 689-7437.

Suit Yourself
at

E. Leslie
Drapers,
28 Peter St.
Drogheda.

Specialists in Ladies',
Gents' and Children's
Wear.

Tel: Drogheda 8173.

JOIN THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT

We stand for the overthrow of British Imperial Rule in Ireland. We stand for an independent All-Ireland Republic. We oppose all foreign financiers, speculators, monopolists, landlords, and their native collaborators. We place the rights of the common man before the right of property. We claim the ownership of the wealth of Ireland for the people of Ireland.

UNITE TO FIGHT

I wish to join the Republican Movement

NAME

ADDRESS

Contact or write to the following:

LEINSTER

SEAN O'DUINN,
c/o United Irishman Office,
30 Gardiner Place,
Dublin 1.

MUNSTER

B. MADDEN
c/o Halla Tomas Aghas,
Fr. Matthew Quay,
Cork City.

CONNAUGHT
P. KILCULLEN
Kilmore, Ballina,
Co. Mayo.

IGNATIUS CRAVEN
Mannin, Craughwell,
Co. Galway.

ULSTER

M. MCGURRAN
56 Brownlow Terrace,
Lurgan, Co. Armagh.
LIAM O'COMAINE
36 Rathbeg Crescent,
Limavady, Co. Derry.