



IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING
POLITICAL WEEKLY

AN PHOBLACHT

Republican News

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No more hostages

A PACKED public meeting in Dublin on Wednesday night showed the growing sense of urgency among supporters of civil liberties as the case of Dessie Ellis reaches a critical point.

Over 200 people crowded into the ATGWU hall for an anti-extradition meeting addressed by Martha Ellis, Dessie's sister, who asked people throughout the country to step up the fight to prevent him being handed over.

Barrister Séamus O Tuathail tore apart the legal facade covering the injustice of extradition. He

pointed to the fact that Irish people cannot expect a fair trial in Britain: "There is a measure of proof that an Irish person will not get justice — the lives of the Birmingham Six have been permanently scarred by their unjust imprisonment. Their case shows that there is a *prima facie* probability of injustice.

"The rendering up of people for extradition has led to an infringement of their constitutional rights. But it also coppersafestens partition because it is an acknowledgement of the British state's 'right' to rule in a part of Ireland."

GOVERNMENT CONDEMNED

He condemned the Dublin government for signing the 1986 European Convention on Terrorism. Under this treaty, the FitzGerald Coalition agreed to ex-

DON'T EXTRADITE DESSIE ELLIS TO BRITISH INJUSTICE



MARCH & RALLY
2pm Sat 13th Oct
Parnell Square, Dublin

Speakers: Owen Carron, Robert Ballagh & Martha Ellis

tradition without any preconditions to protect Irish citizens. All other states refused to give their citizens over unconditionally: "We were the only country that signed a blank page. We forgot our own history."

The lawyer was scathing about the Fianna Fáil government's claim that the Dublin Attorney-General could protect the citizen threatened with extradition by examining the British warrants carefully:

"The Attorney-General can play

God in private, but the Irish citizen threatened with extradition has no right to demand a *prima facie* case before he is deprived forever of the protection of the Irish courts."

The decision of the Supreme Court to hand over Dominic McGlinchey to the British authorities came in for severe criticism from O Tuathail. Chief Justice Tom O'Higgins announced a radical change to the principle of refusing extradition in political cases. From then on, this "political exemption" was only to be applied in cases which "the ordinary person" would consider to be political.

"The McGlinchey decision stood all the preceding law on its head." The test as to whether a case was political was dangerously vague. "It was anything that a judge might think was nasty at any particular time."

The meeting also heard pleas from Fr Des Wilson of Belfast and Fr Dennis Carroll of Dublin that Ellis not be extradited.

HIGH COURT APPEARANCES

On Tuesday morning, October 9th, another three republicans will be before the High Court in Dublin. Paul Magee, Tony Sloan, and Michael McKee are also facing extradition, in their cases to the no-jury, one-judge Orange justice of the Diplock courts in the Six Counties. They have already been jailed by the Dublin government on Britain's behalf under the Criminal Law Jurisdiction Act and their extradition to British injustice would be a double betrayal by Fianna Fáil. All these extraditions must be opposed, no more political hostages must be given to Britain.



Over 200 people attend an anti-extradition meeting in Dublin's ATGWU Hall on Wednesday night

OPINION

THE IMPOSSIBLE HAPPENS

CHAMPAGNE, fireworks and one of the world's largest parties marked the re-unification of Germany at midnight on Tuesday. Again and again, participants remarked on how momentous the occasion really was. Two states with radically different economies, with separate armies which faced each other in the field only 18 months ago, were made one. Forty-five years of partition were suddenly, magically, wiped away.

From 1949 when East Germany became the German Democratic Republic, it was at odds with the West and particularly with the West German state, ruled from Bonn. It looked as if German unity would never again occur. The two Germanies were the flash-point of the Cold War.

Just last year, the hacks who ruled East Germany celebrated the 40th anniversary of the foundation of their state. At that time 30,000 GDR citizens had illegally crossed into the West and a dangerous population haemorrhage had begun. But no-one in the world could have reasonably expected a re-unified Germany inside 12 months.

That 'historic impossibility' happened this week. It was a scene that no Irish person could, or should, have watched without thinking of this country. The two 'Irelands' have been divided for 24 years longer than the two Germanies. Considerably more blood has been spilt because of partition in Ireland than in Germany. The simple, human argument of national self-determination — and the terrible consequences of ignoring it — are even more obvious here than in Central Europe.

But that argument wasn't even made by those who rule in the name of Ireland. On the day after Germany became one, the new German ambassador visited Charles Haughey. The ambassador thanked the 26-County government for its support in the re-unification of his country. Charles Haughey remained entirely silent about the re-unification of Ireland.

Re-unified Germany faces extraordinary problems. West German capitalism has eaten up the failed command economy of the East and huge numbers of Germans have been turned into second-class citizens as a result. But, with hindsight, we can see that the re-unification followed an inevitable logic. In spite of the many significant differences that logic also applies here.

ROLLING THE WICKET

THE LATEST episode of the Brooke talks saga has Jim Molyneaux's Official Unionist Party raising the stakes for any talks which involve Dublin, citing Articles Two and Three of the 1937 Constitution as obstacles. The unionists have also raised the Hillsborough Agreement and the failure of London or Dublin to provide a more palatable alternative as another reason for opposing early negotiations.

The unionist objections followed statements by the SDLP's Seamus Mallon to the British Labour Party Conference that Brooke should rip up the various party positions and start all over again if the present talks failed to produce enough common ground for agreement on the way forward.

All this leaves the Brooke initiative on very shaky ground indeed. The SDLP have placed so much emphasis on the role of Dublin government involvement in the talks, and unionists have made such an issue of contention, that no agreement seems likely. The SDLP fear what the reaction from their own support base would be if they capitulate and much the same applies to the unionists.

In a typical example of an upper-class Englishman's lack of understanding of Ireland and the Irish, Brooke used the language of cricket to describe his views on the current situation when he referred to unionist and SDLP objections as "rolling the wicket" and has discounted the prospect of a return to the drawing board.

Brooke has a clear choice — he either moves ahead on unionist terms or he can attempt to face them down.

Brooke's initiative seems set to join the string of other failed British initiatives for the Six Counties. That list is almost as long as the list of direct-rulers that have served there. With its failure, another option for the stabilisation of British rule in Ireland will be closed down. The tragedy is that Irish people will continue to suffer Britain's hesitancy in recognising the only solution to Ireland's British problem — political and military withdrawal.

● Scotland Yard's George Churchill-Coleman with the 4lb Semtex bomb, placed by the IRA at a conference on 'terrorism' in London

Red faces at British 'war cabinet'

IN THE HEART of London, just hours before the British 'war cabinet' met to discuss the latest wave of IRA military operations in England, an IRA active service unit was placing in position a 4lb Semtex device which, but for a chance discovery, could have inflicted a major blow to the British establishment. The bomb was planted in the hall where a conference on 'terrorism' was due to be addressed by British Foreign Office Minister William Waldgrave.

The bomb was placed in position early on Thursday morning, September 27th, on the main speaker's lectern inside the conference hall at the Royal Overseas League buildings, in Piccadilly. The hall was already prepared, and a search had been conducted, for the commencement of the conference organised by the Research Institute for the Study of Conflict and Terrorism, when, just before the 9am start, a TV engineer making last-minute adjustments to microphones, discovered the device and alerted security staff.

In a statement issued through the Irish Republican Publicity Bureau in Dublin, the IRA said one of their ASUs had placed the device and noted:

"The ability of the IRA to target British cabinet ministers while, less than a mile away, Margaret Thatcher holds a crisis meeting to find ways to stop IRA attacks, demonstrates the daring of the IRA and its ability to strike at will."

The statement continued:

"The way to stop IRA attacks in Britain is for Thatcher to withdraw her army of occupation from the Six Counties and recognise the right of the Irish people to self-determination."

SOUTH ARMAGH SHOOTINGS

A British soldier sustained gunshot wounds late on Wednesday evening, September 26th, when he and other soldiers standing in position on the helicopter pad at

Newtownhamilton Barracks came under fire from an active service unit of the South Armagh Brigade of the IRA.

The shooting has led to yet another security review, given the fact that helicopter transport is the only means the British army have in South Armagh of maintaining their tenuous foothold in the area and supplying their outlying border spy-posts and fortified hilltop positions.

Less than 24 hours later, one of those same fortified positions came under sustained gunfire when Volunteers armed with heavy calibre weapons, poured shots into the spy-post at Drumackavall near Crossmaglen. There were no reports of any injuries.

RUC MAN SURVIVES

An RUC man narrowly escaped death in the County Fermanagh village of Maguiresbridge at breakfast time on Monday morning, October 1st, when a booby-trap bomb devastated the cab of a lorry which he was driving.

The bomb, which had been placed in position by Volunteers of the South Fermanagh Brigade, detonated as the RUC man slowed down his vehicle at a junction with the main Brookeborough Road. He was taken from the scene by ambulance but his injuries were described as not serious.

CROWN FORCES STRETCHED

As crown forces mounted a massive saturation of nationalist ar-

reas of Belfast from Thursday evening, September 27th until Sunday evening, September 30th, Volunteers of the Belfast Brigade, IRA, launched a wave of operations

which ensured that those troops being deployed in massive numbers to hem in and harass nationalists were kept at full stretch.

On Thursday there were over 30 elaborate hoax bombs positioned at crown forces barracks and strategic road junctions throughout Belfast and the nearby garrison town of Lisburn. Besides these, a series of incendiary devices were placed in position in commercial premises in Belfast city centre. Several were discovered on Thursday evening but two others detonated as planned in the early hours of Friday morning in two premises in Royal Avenue.

Throughout the next three days Volunteers opened fire on British troops and British bases on seven separate occasions. The positions targeted were, North Howard Street Barracks and Broadway Tower in the West of the city and the fortified position around the Law Courts precincts in the city centre. Soldiers were fired on at Stewart Street in the Markets area of South Belfast and at New Barnsley Park, Stewartstown Road and Broadway in West Belfast.

One soldier at New Barnsley Park escaped death by the narrowest of margins when a single high-powered rifle round slammed into a wall less than an inch from his head. There were no confirmed reports of any injuries during the shootings.

Teenagers murdered by British army

THE SURVIVOR of the British army shooting in which two teenagers were killed in West Belfast on Sunday, September 30th, has confirmed the testimony of other eye-witnesses that there was no road-block before the soldiers fired into the stolen car and it was fired on after it came to a halt. These accounts have exposed as a lie the version of the tragedy put out by the British ministers.

The murders have again thrown into sharp focus the policy of the British government which allows British soldiers, the RUC and undercover death-squads, to gun people down with impunity on the sole basis of their belonging to the nationalist community.

Shortly before midnight on Sunday, British soldiers from the notorious Parachute Regiment opened fire with automatic weapons on three West Belfast teenage 'joy-riders' as they drove a stolen Vauxhall Astra car along the Glen Road.

Seventeen-year-old Martin Declan Peake, from Cregagh Park, Lenadoon, the driver of the vehicle, died in a hail of bullets at the scene. One of two female passengers, 18-year-old Karen Reilly from Jasmine Walk, Twinbrook, who was shot seven times, died on arrival at the hospital. The third passenger, 16-year-old Markievicz Gorman from Iveragh Drive, miraculously escaped death, sustaining gunshot wounds to her arms.

According to the RUC press office, the three teenagers were shot down when the vehicle they were driving failed to stop at a British army checkpoint along the Glen Road. British

sources claim that the soldiers who carried out the killings had mounted a road-block and were searching the boot of another car when the stolen Astra pulled up 25 yards short of the checkpoint. It is alleged that, as a soldier approached the second vehicle, the Astra drove towards him at speed, knocking the soldier to the ground. When the car drove towards a second soldier, other soldiers at the scene opened fire.

INDEPENDENT EYE-WITNESSES

However, the evidence from independent eye-witnesses to Sunday night's killings starkly contrasts with the RUC's story. A number of witnesses have stated that there was no road-block on the Glen Road at the time of the shooting.

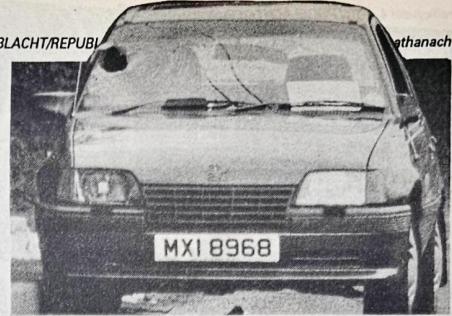
In direct contravention of their own guidelines on the use of lethal force, the British soldiers shouted no warning before opening fire. Local witnesses said there were two distinct bursts of sustained gunfire. The first brought the vehicle to a standstill after which there was still no attempt by the British soldiers to detain and arrest the three occupants. While the car was stationary,

more shots were fired into it. As the two injured girls were dragged from the vehicle, they were kicked by the soldiers.

This is not the first time British crown forces have falsely claimed that a vehicle was fired upon and the occupants killed after driving through a checkpoint. The British army's version of events on Sunday night is remarkably similar to the story concocted by the RUC following the summary execution of three men who were gunned down by British crown forces in Armagh in 1982. In a subsequent court case into the killing of Eugene Toman, Gervase McKerr and Sean Burns, the RUC story of a vehicle crashing through a road-block and the injuring of a RUC man was revealed as a pack of lies. There was no road-block, the damaged RUC man had been involved in an accident two miles away from, and an hour previous to, the shootings. The injured RUC man had simply slid down a muddy bank.

SURVIVOR SPEAKS OUT

Confirming the evidence already accumulated from eye-witnesses, the young of the three teenagers shot on Sunday night, and the only one to survive the attack, Markievicz Gorman, described the events ending with the death of her two companions and injury to herself. Speaking shortly after being released from hospital where she had been recovering for three days, Markievicz detailed her ordeal which began when the



● The Vauxhall Astra car in which two teenagers were shot dead by the British army

stolen car in which she was travelling slowed down to turn a hairpin bend on the Glen Road. She said:

"Martin was driving, Karen was sitting in the back of the car and I was in the front. We had just turned a hairpin bend and were travelling very slowly. I had a good view of the road but I did not see any British soldiers at all. There was no other car and there was no checkpoint. Our car certainly did not run into or knock down a British soldier. There were no British soldiers to be seen."

"The first I knew was a burst of gunfire and I saw Martin slump over the driving wheel. The car did not crash. The fact that the car simply came to a halt shows how slowly we were travelling at the time the driver was shot. The shooting was coming from some ditches at the side of the road. I still did not see any British soldiers. More shots were fired after the vehicle stopped."

"The first soldiers I saw ran towards the car from the Suffolk Road end towards Colin Glen. Two soldiers dragged me from the front seat and then Karen from the back of the car. The soldiers started to beat both of us. I was kicked to the ground and the soldiers were stamping on my head and arms. I was very badly bruised. The soldiers were screaming at me, shouting that I wasn't to look up at the car. I was then dragged away and thrown into the back of a jeep. The soldiers showed no interest in the car and made no attempt to search it. They must have known we were joyriders."

Local parents, community leaders and nationalist politicians have united in their condemnation of the British army's calculated and callous shooting of the three West Belfast teenagers.

The local Glen Community Parent Youth Group said that the incident had "proved that the RUC and the British army have been given the go-ahead to continue their shoot-to-kill policy in

West Belfast".

West Belfast MP Gerry Adams said that the British army had used excessive force in a flagrant violation of their own rules in carrying out a shoot-to-kill policy. He continued:

"Eye-witnesses' accounts given to Sinn Féin cast serious doubt on the British army version of events. There had been no road-block at the time of the shooting and the car had been halted initially by a burst of sustained machine-gun fire which was followed by shots fired into the car. The two girls in the car were assaulted by soldiers as they were dragged from the car. The incident was a clear indication of a shoot-to-kill policy."

A CAMPAIGN OF TERROR

In the wake of the weekend killings, the NIO Security Minister John Cope, in a cynical attempt to contain the shoot-to-kill controversy, claimed that the three teenagers had not been shot because they were joyriders, and had they been detected as joyriders they would have been arrested.

For Cope, the problem is not the British army murder of two more defenceless nationalists, but the fact that they were car thieves, not republicans. Meanwhile, as AP/RN goes to print, Direct-Ruler Peter Brooke has already ruled out any possibility of an independent public inquiry into the killings.

Speaking shortly after the death of his daughter, Sean Reilly said that her killers should be charged with murder. He said that there was no doubt in his mind that the soldiers fired on the car in the full knowledge that it contained young joyriders. He continued: "They knew they were joyriders, yet they still fired on them twice with automatic weapons. Whoever did it should pay the price. It's murder. It's as simple as that, it's murder."

a similar device was found attached to a vehicle at Newtownstewart.

"We are witnessing an intensification of attacks on our community by pro-British death squads and I call on people to seriously review their own security and to check for possible devices. A feature of all these attacks has been that none of the victims or their families have been members of any branch of the Republican Movement so every nationalist should take heed. We are all equally vulnerable."

LOYALIST ONSLAUGHT IN CASTLEDERG

THE LATEST in a wave of loyalist attacks against the nationalist community of North West Tyrone has left a 15-year-old youth fighting for his life and caused considerable damage to a local GAA hall, as pro-British death squads planted a series of three explosive devices in the Aghyaran area over the weekend.

The youth, who is on a life-support machine and carrying out no bodily functions on his own, sustained his massive blast injuries when a booby-trap device detonated on the family tractor at a remote farm on the Corgary Road at Aghyaran, only yards from the border with County Donegal.

James Harvey and his two sons, James and John, who all live in the nationalist town of Castlederg, had been working on the family farm at Corgary Road on Saturday evening, September 29th. They had completed their work and were preparing to return home at 6.45pm when 15-year-old James climbed on board

an old tractor to move it. As the youth began shifting the vehicle the booby-trap bomb exploded, gravely injuring him. His shocked father and brother sent for help and attempted to comfort the still conscious youth who was in extreme pain.

First to arrive was a local GP who did what he could on the scene whilst alerting the ambulance service and the RUC. Two hours elapsed before an ambulance arrived on the scene. The youth was then taken to hospital where he was placed on a life-support system.

Despite the circumstances, and the fact that a nationalist family had been the target of the attack, local

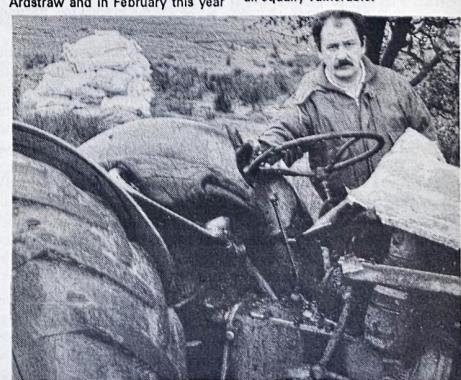
news broadcasts conveyed the impression that there was no known motive for the attack and that the victim had "no links with the security forces".

GAA CLUB BOMBED

The attack on the Harvey family came just over 24 hours after a sectarian bomb attack which occurred at St Davog's GAA club situated not far from the Harvey farm. A local man arrived at the club early on Friday to discover blast and scorch damage to the front of the club premises. On examination he found the back door had been drilled through and forced open and that a second unexploded device was sitting in the centre of the clubhouse.

Local Sinn Féin representative Charley McHugh commented:

"It was known to the media, both from myself and from the nature of the attack, that the attack on the Harvey family was an indiscrimi-



● Castlederg Sinn Féin Councillor Charlie McHugh beside the wreckage of the tractor

HORRENDOUS ORDEAL OF TWELVE MEN



Brutal torture in Castlereagh

TWELVE YOUNG MEN from South-West Antrim and South Derry were taken from their homes on Sunday, September 23rd, by RUC raiding parties who conducted searches and abused their families. They were then taken in high speed convoys to the infamous Castlereagh torture centre in East Belfast where they were subjected to five days of systematic beatings, threats, degradation and continuous brutality in order to extract signed confessions from them.

Six of the men, still obviously deeply affected by their ordeal, spoke to AP/RN following their release. All are employed and as they work in various parts of the Six Counties, including mixed areas, they do not wish to be named due to the very real risk of attack from pro-British death squads.

"They were the worst five days of my life," said one. "There were times I thought they were going to kill me and times I wished I was dead," said another. All of the vic-

tims of the RUC Special Branch torturers independently told remarkably similar stories about the obviously preplanned brutality they suffered.

Having been photographed and fingerprinted, they were taken to interrogation rooms where each was handed over to two teams of two detectives who began interrogation sessions that lasted until after midnight that night.

All of the men were assaulted from the beginning of the first ses-

sion and almost without exception were assaulted at some stage during each of the five days. In standard RUC style, the detectives played a "good guy, bad guy routine", terrorising their victims and then feigning concern at their plight.

The physical and psychological abuse described to AP/RN this week had all the elements of the policy of torture so clearly seen when the British government sanctioned the use of the five techniques against a group of nationalists in the days following the introduction of internment in 1971.

They included:

- Death threats, threats to concoct verbal statements against the victims, and inducements to become informers;
- Violent and abusive screaming into the ears;
- Hooding their victim as a mock preliminary to execution;
- Suffocation by covering the mouth and blowing pipe smoke up the victim's nostrils;
- Being forced to squat with legs apart while having arms twisted up the back and the head violently pushed either up or down. One of the victims was forced to stand or squat for the entire duration of his interrogations over four days;
- Sleep deprivation;
- Repeated and violent twisting and bending of the joints, especially the wrists and fingers;
- Refusal of access to toilet facilities for long periods;
- Pulling of the victim's hair;
- Flicking the victim's ear lobes, on one occasion for over two hours; and
- Being forced down by two detectives putting their full weight on the victims' shoulders.

NEVER-ENDING SESSIONS

With each session lasting over two hours and up to six sessions occurring in a day, the victims' ordeal at times seemed never-ending and when several of them made complaints to uniformed RUC men or their solicitors they were subjected to more beatings and told "we'll give you something to complain about" and "what you've had 'til now is only the start of it".

There were several other incidents during the five days which

give cause for concern; two of the victims reported that when they were getting the worst beatings the light in the interrogation room was flicked on and off in what they clearly believed was a signal for the interrogators to go easy or stop.

One of the men, when being examined by the doctor, told him he had a history of back trouble and that the repeated punches and slaps were causing him great pain. Immediately on returning to the interrogation room the two detectives began beating him about the

IN A DECISION which undermined one of the most repressive laws in the 26-County state, a former Portlaoise prisoner won the right to get his job back. On Tuesday, the Dublin High Court found a section of the Offences Against the State Act (OAS) unconstitutional. Fifty-one years after the law first entered the statute-books, Judge Barr found Section 34 "patently unfair".

For the last half-century, public employees who were sentenced in the Special Courts — set up under the 1939 OAS Act — lost their jobs automatically for seven years. Literally dozens of people were deprived of a livelihood by this vindictive measure which was designed to force republicans to leave this country. Now there is a possibility the victims may be able to sue for damages but there is no guarantee that the money they have lost will be refunded.

Tom Cox was a teacher at Moyne Community School in County Longford when he was sentenced for two years on arms charges in 1988. He was one of

REPRESSIVE LAW UNDERMINED

those who sheltered Long Kesh escapees Dermot Finucane and Paul Kane. On his release from Portlaoise, the Department of Education refused to re-employ him on the grounds of Section 34 of the OAS Act.

On October 2nd, Judge Barr of the High Court ruled that state employees were discriminated against through this section. Any of them convicted in a Special Court would lose their jobs, but employees of private firms would not.

DISCREPANCY

Under the OAS Act, a set of "scheduled offences" must be tried in the Special Courts, but other cases can be tried in the normal court system. Cox's lawyers pointed out that this meant he could have been sentenced under the Offences Against the State Act and have kept his job — another discrepancy in the law.

The government's legal team claimed

that the state is more "vulnerable" than private employers. Its lawyers suggested that governments have to take extraordinary measures to "protect" themselves. This is the fundamental basis of the OAS Act and Barr's decision drove a major hole through it. The state was obliged to be fair and even-handed, not to establish different conditions of work for private and public sector workers.

Barr accepted Cox's case that the law was unfair and added that the unfairness also applied to the matter of pension rights which had been earned before the sentence was imposed.

Barr's judgement was deeply embarrassing for the state which has lived with this law for so long and for the Fianna Fail party which brought it into being. He used words like "unreasonable" and "erratic" and argued that it was an unjustified invasion of a person's civil rights.

He said that Cox would be entitled to compensation, but the exact amount of

that compensation was left for discussion at a later date in case the state wished to appeal this decision to the Supreme Court. After the verdict was heard, there were strong hints from the state's side that there would be no such appeal, but that the state would contest any suggestion of compensation for other victims of Section 34.

VICTIMS

These victims include former Dublin foot-baller Des Ferguson, who lost his teaching job; Walter Lynch, a postal worker; Sean Murphy who worked for the Land Commission; and many others. There are fears that these people will be denied compensation. In a case of tax injustice during the 1980s, judges granted compensation to those who had already taken cases before the courts but denied it to those who had not. If the courts do force the state to compensate these victims, the state may have to pay out over £1 million.

Exclusion from state employment is

base of the spine and taunting him saying "so you have a bad back then".

When some of the men had seen their solicitors and returned to the interrogation rooms, detectives made repeated allegations that one of the solicitors whom they named was a "Provo bastard" and that having him represent them was harming their case.

One of the most frightening episodes was when one of the men was hooded for over 30 minutes following an extended beating and told in graphic detail how he was going to be shot and his body dumped in South Armagh.

The purpose of the bag, he was told, as a detective put something against the back of his head indicating where the bullet would go, was to contain the brain matter and his face as it was blown off by the exiting bullet.

EXCRUCIATING PAIN

All the men made complaints about their treatment in Castlereagh and saw doctors upon their release. One of them was unable to feel a pin being stuck into his fingers by a doctor, a result of nerve damage while having his fingers continually bent back. After the fingers and hand had been forced back for a long period of time the detective would take the hand "to get the circulation going" and shake it violently, causing an excruciating pain to shoot through it.

Sinn Féin councillor, John Hurl, who spoke to the men in the days following their release, said:

"Their stories of brutality and degradation are strikingly similar to the litany of abuses that were instigated in the torture centres in the early and mid-'70s. Clearly, this was a preplanned operation, authorised at the highest levels and aimed at striking terror into the nationalist community in this area by reinforcing the image of Castlereagh as a torture house. These abuses must be highlighted at every opportunity so that we never go back to those dark days of conveyor-belt arrests, beatings, confessions, convictions and lengthy sentences in the H-Blocks."

SUPPORT FOR ELLIS GROWS

DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL has unanimously passed a proposal opposing the extradition to Britain of Dublin man Dessie Ellis.

The motion, which was proposed at the Council's October meeting by Sinn Féin Councillor Liam McElhinney, asked "that this Council discuss the threatened extradition to England of Dessie Ellis as it is clear that it is impossible for an Irish person to receive a fair trial in a British court on political charges". The motion was seconded by Councillor Harry Blaney.

Councillor McElhinney gave a full outline of the background to the case of Dessie Ellis who had his appeal against extradition rejected by Dublin's High Court earlier this year. A number of other councillors spoke on the issue and following the discussion it was agreed that the Council would write immediately to the 26-County Minister for Justice informing him of the Council's view that Ellis should not be extradited. The Council, in common with many local authorities around the the 26 Counties, has a position against political extradition.



• LIAM McELHINNEY



• MARTHA ELLIS

The sister of Dessie Ellis has accused the Irish government of "doing deals with people's lives". Addressing an anti-extradition rally in Ballymurphy on Thursday of last week, Martha Ellis claimed that evidence proving her brother's innocence is on public record.

"On May 13th, 1981, Dessie was arrested at the family home. He was taken before the Special Court in Green Street, Dublin, charged with possession of explosive devices and remanded in custody to Portlaoise Prison. Bail was granted during the third week of July 1981 on the condition that he report three times weekly to the local Garda station.

"It should be pointed out," she continued, "that Special Branch detectives admitted in court that Dessie had been under intensive surveillance for some considerable time. On January 27th, 1982, Dessie jumped bail and made his way to Canada. He was arrested on February

RALLY IN BALLYMURPHY

6th, 1982, trying to make his way to the United States. He spent a year in jail before being deported to Ireland on March 3rd, 1983. He was arrested upon arrival at Dublin Airport and later received an eight-year sentence for the possession of explosive devices."

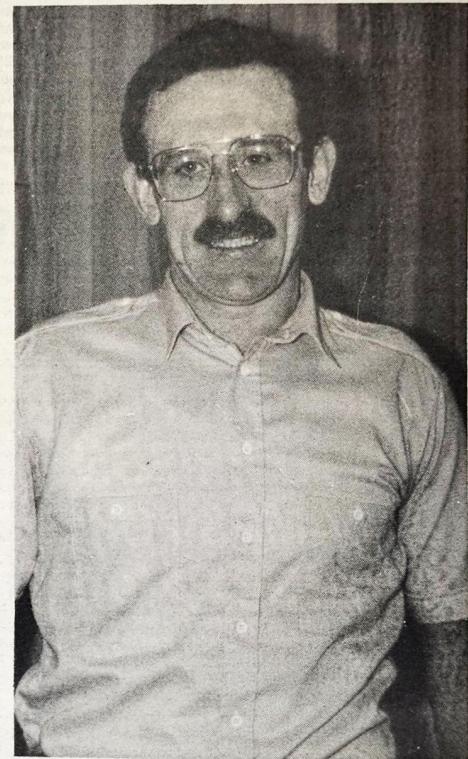
RAISE THE ISSUE

Martha Ellis concluded by appealing to those present to raise the extradition issue with their elected representatives, asking them to put pressure on the Dublin government to order the release of men currently facing extradition proceedings.

Also speaking at the rally was Lower Falls Sinn Féin Councillor Lily Fitzsimmons, who told the demonstration that "the active collaboration of the 26-County government with the British establishment in terms of anti-republican propaganda, censorship and collusion with the British armed forces, has been used in an effort to silence the voice of dissent".

Fitzsimmons ended by calling on those gathered to make a "firm commitment to support the campaign against any extradition of Irish people into the hands of a hostile anti-Irish system".

Closing the rally Belfast anti-extradition spokesperson, Rosaleen Russell, warned that heavy pressure must be brought to bear on the Dublin government if further extraditions are to be prevented.



• DESSIE ELLIS

only one of the extraordinary features of the 1939 Act. Political censorship of publications, including the banning of newspapers which, in the view of a Garda Superintendent is "incriminating", "seditious" or "treasonable", is also possible. A journalist could be sentenced to six months' imprisonment for merely printing the initials "IRA" instead of using the phrase "a banned organisation".

Although many of the provisions of the act have been unused for some years, they can still be activated at any time, enabling the government to imprison, for example, tenants' and residents' leaders for calling on people not to pay the water tax or to do anything which, in the mind of a Garda Superintendent, "undermines public order".

It was based on an even more vicious law — the Free State's Treasonable Offences Act (1924), which was also known as the "Murder Bill". This act denied employment to republicans after the Civil War. It is thought to have forced up to 10,000 people to emigrate.

The decision in Tom Cox's case may well turn out to be a landmark in Irish civil rights. The OAS Act is a piece of legislation which contradicts any claims that the 26-County state respects human rights. This verdict cuts at its very heart.

QUEBEC TRADE UNIONS TO MONITOR DISCRIMINATION

QUEBEC trade unions have called on the Quebec-based Bombardier Corporation to eliminate discrimination in its Six-County holdings, chief of which is Short Brothers in Belfast. Two hundred delegates of the **Confederal Council of the 235,000-strong Quebec Confédération des Syndicats Nationaux (CSN)** meeting on September 13th also voted to monitor progress in this area.

Last year, Bombardier bought Shorts, long a company notorious for loyalist sectarian privilege. Now the multinational is said to be in the process of acquiring Maydown Precision Engineering, a Derry firm, which, due to its location, employs a majority of Catholics.

According to Comité Québec-Irlande spokesperson, Kevin Callaghan, this is a way for Bombardier to sidestep the MacBride Principles. Rather than do anything to combat sectarianism at Shorts, where only eleven per cent of the workforce is from the nationalist commu-

nity, Bombardier is looking to increase the total number of nationalists it employs by buying up small factories in Catholic areas. The Comité Québec-Irlande will be working with the CSN to promote support for the MacBride Principles in Quebec which will bring pressure to bear on Bombardier.

The CSN's vote took place after delegates heard a speech from Conal McFeely of the Derry Trades Council, in which he outlined the general pattern of economic neglect which has been the policy of successive British governments with regard to the Six Counties. He said that this

lack of planning and investment had combined with reinforced existing patterns of discrimination to make the North of Ireland the economic wasteland it is today.

McFeely and fellow Derry trade unionist Ken Christine, also met with Bernard Rossignol, the president of the CSN local union organisation in Bombardier's Quebec plant. Rossignol said his local organisation had already sent a letter to Bombardier chief, Laurent Beaudoin, concerning the situation in Short Brothers and would be making links with progressive trade unionists in Ireland to battle discrimination.

HUGE RISE IN RAPE HELP CALLS

THE NUMBER OF WOMEN and children seeking help concerning child sexual abuse and incest has almost tripled in the last two years, according to the latest report from the Belfast Rape Crisis Centre.

With an overall increase of 45% in the number of calls to the centre this year, the report shows last year's dramatic rise of 183% in calls concerning child sexual abuse, has again increased by almost 25% this year.

Commenting on the figures, a spokesperson from Rape Crisis said that growing public awareness about the effects of sexual violence on women and girls, over a third of which are under the age of nine, the refusal of the survivors of abuse to keep silent about their ordeal any longer,

and the realisation that support is now available, is believed to account for the dramatic increase in the number of women coming forward. She continued:

"More older women are contacting us to break the silence on child sexual abuse they survived many years ago. A sample analysis of calls to the Rape Crisis Centre shows that almost half of calls were made more than one year after the abuse and many of these were ten to 20 years after the abuse."

DISPELLING THE MYTHS

A statistical analysis of 150 consecutive calls reiterates the Belfast centre's statements of previous years and the findings of other Rape Crisis Centres. The analysis reveals that more than half of all attacks on women and children take place in their own homes, with more than half of all sexual abuse and rapes carried out by relatives or

close associates. Speaking about the findings, the spokesperson said that less than one in ten abusers and rapists were unknown. She continued:

"Women are far more likely to be raped or abused in their own homes and by men to whom they are related or know well. The common myth that rape is perpetrated by strangers in dark alleys is totally discredited. Only just over 13% of women are raped by a stranger while over 50% are raped or sexually abused in their own homes, a place in which we all have the right to feel safe and secure."

UNREPORTED

The report also reveals that almost 80% of women and children who contact Rape Crisis in the Six Counties do not report the crime to the RUC. A spokesperson for the centre said that the low level of reporting to

the RUC meant that most women were not part of official statistics, while the figures reflect an understandable distrust in the legal system. She continued:

"At the end of the day, women know that they will often be blamed for the crime committed against them. Rape is a crime surrounded by myths which disguise its nature and its prevalence. Myths like, 'women secretly want to be raped' or that they 'lead men on' perpetuate deeply entrenched prejudices against those who are subjected to it. The myths are deliberately sustained against all the evidence, a situation which is highly advantageous to rapists and extremely damaging to women."

NEW PREMISES

In November, as a result of the growing workload, Belfast Rape Crisis Centre will be moving to new premises in Waring Street which will provide not only more office space but also the first sexual assault resource centre to be opened in the Six Counties. Rape Crisis has also recently opened a new centre in Enniskillen which currently runs a Crisis Line two days a week and hopes to be expanding shortly to five days. Describing the new premises as an 'exciting development', a spokesperson said:

"They are developments which we hope will go some way to breaking down taboos and attitudes regarding sexual violence and to providing an informative educational programme to challenge existing attitudes towards women and children."

AREAS TURNED INTO PRISON CAMPS FOR ORANGE PARADE

MEDIA IMAGES of the culmination of the Orange Order's celebration of the tercentenary of the Battle of the Boyne last weekend concentrated as usual on the "festive atmosphere" but completely ignored the fact that the nationalist communities of North and West Belfast were put under a state of siege by British crown forces to facilitate a coat-trailing Orange march through the city centre.

In the run-up to the Orange Order's tercentenary parade, Belfast's nationalist communities were cordoned off in a massive British crown forces operation. For three days British army and RUC road blocks on every road in and out of North and West Belfast made it almost impossible for local people to leave the area.

Local politicians and clergy, reflecting general outrage in the community, spoke out against the decision which made virtual prison camps out of nationalist areas.

COMMUNITIES LOCKED-UP

Condemning the action of the British crown forces, and indicating the extent of the crown forces operation, West Belfast priest Fr Toner (infamous for his anti-republican rhetoric), said his Andersonstown parishioners were "well-nigh locked-up in their own neighbourhood for most of the day". He continued:

"We were held to ransom all day because of the Orange parade. We were subjected to detailed and meticulous searches when we attempted to leave the area."



● Orange Order march

He added: "I heard lots of stories of aggressive and unwanted action by security forces. We bitterly object to what comes across as a punitive policy of near incarceration in our own area."

Also expressing anger, West Belfast MP Gerry Adams said that the crown forces operation during the Orange parade placed nationalist areas of Belfast under "a virtual curfew". He continued:

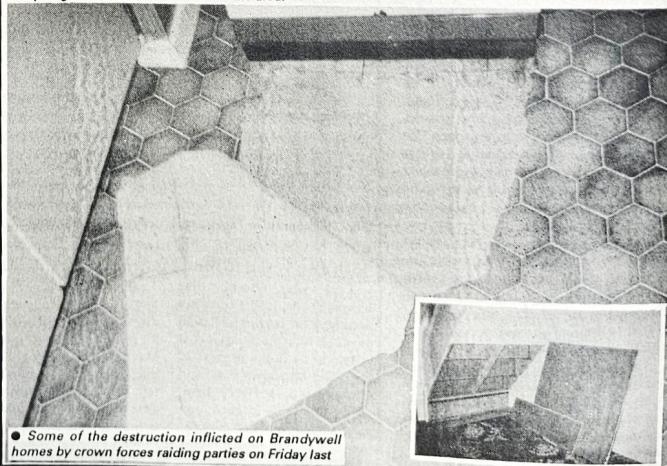
"Once again British crown forces were able to use the occasion of an Orange march to harass and intimidate nationalists trying to go about their daily lives in their own communities."

BLANKET RAIDS IN DERRY

"LIKE Operation Motorman all over again," is how Martina Harris from Lecky Road described the scene in Derry's Brandywell last Friday, September 28th, when large numbers of British army and RUC personnel in columns of jeeps and Saracens swamped the area from dawn until late into the evening and carried out extensive and systematic house raids.

The crown forces imposed a curfew on Brandywell residents, subjecting cars and pedestrians attempting to leave the area to

lengthy searches and, at one stage Barney McFadden, a Sinn Féin councillor, was denied access to the area.



● Some of the destruction inflicted on Brandywell homes by crown forces raiding parties on Friday last

Typical of the treatment meted out was that inflicted on the Harris family and their two young children, aged six and two, who were placed under house arrest and confined to one room while the British army rampaged through their home, leaving a trail of destruction in their wake.

Many other homes, including those newly renovated, sustained unwaranted damage. Householders arrived home from work to find their homes invaded by soldiers and RUC men who had smashed their way into the empty dwellings. Where flats were found to be empty the crown forces simply smashed in windows and left without even informing the residents.

Sinn Féin's Martin McGuinness condemned the saturation raiding as communal and vindictive punishment of nationalists and called on Bishop Edward Daly to condemn them with the same energy he spends condemning republican activities.

Sinn Féin's message heard

BY LIAM O COILEAIN

DESPITE a pretty miserable night, there was a good turnout in Rialto in Dublin on Tuesday evening last for the first of a series of meetings around the 26 Counties organised by Sinn Féin to explain just what the party is all about.

The meeting, attended by around 130 people, was chaired by Aine Connolly of Sinn Féin's British Desk and a party member in the Crumlin/Drimnagh area. Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams and Sinn Féin representative Micheál O Muireagáin, local government candidate for the South Inner-City, joined her on the platform. The em-

phasis of the meeting was on Sinn Féin's role in the struggle for peace and democracy in Ireland, the party's very real alternative to British rule in Ireland and to the problems which confront all Irish people, an alternative which is so often distorted and misrepresented.

O Muireagáin explained that Sinn Féin believes in a united Ireland, free from foreign interference and "agitates and argues firmly and unashamedly in the interests of the plain and oppressed people of Ireland."

"We demand a fair share of the wealth of this country for everyone," he said. He spoke of the problems which confronted the area and described the efforts of the establishment parties to improve things as "pathetic and bogus". He said that central to Sinn Féin's approach,

apart from the need for people to organise against injustices, was the concept of democracy in its fullest sense. He criticised the present political system in the 26 Counties in which the mass of people are left helpless and reliant, thus cementing "the legacy of patronage and gombeenism" while "people remain, and are kept, docile".

The speaker called for a dramatic reform of local government to involve people in the decision-making process. He criticised the so-called progressive left-wing parties (the Labour and Workers' parties) for their lack of work in the area organising or motivating people to fight against injustice in any serious way. Effective leadership in areas and communities where it counts is where Sinn Féin differs dramatically from these other parties, he

claimed, the others being content to make empty promises on a regular basis.

He cited Sinn Féin's involvement in getting the Connolly Unemployed Centre off the ground, the party's support for the Irish National Organisation for the Unemployed, Sinn Féin's ongoing campaign for more housing to be built and for proper maintenance of existing Corporation dwellings, and its support for the people's campaign against the menace of hard drugs. He called for Dublin to be made a living city, with an emphasis on people and improved public transport rather than cars and motorways.

Gerry Adams concentrated on outlining Sinn Féin's relevance to the people of the 26 Counties and the importance of challenging partitionist thinking. He spoke of the revisionism and shoneenism in the 26 Counties and the establishment's attempts "to shape people into something less than we actually are".

He spoke of the "republican test" for the 26-County state, the 1916 Proclamation, which is supposed to be the cornerstone of the policies of all the parties in the 26 Counties. He said that all the children of the nation were not "cherished equally", citing Dublin's record on employment, distribution of wealth, democratic rights and the crippling effects of emigration. These realities of society in Ireland

today do not match up to the aspirations of the Proclamation by one iota, he said. He criticised the conservative ethos of the 26-County state, citing this as a reason why there has never been low unemployment or a vibrant national language.

NEED TO CHALLENGE

Adams outlined the main tenet of Sinn Féin policy, the right to national self-determination. He also spoke of the fundamental need to end partition and get rid of British interference in Irish affairs, saying that Sinn Féin would then argue for economic democracy. He spoke of the need to challenge Britain's attempts to convince the international community through efforts like the Brooke initiative, that its role in Ireland is that of "honest broker in some sort of sectarian squabble", rather than its true role of colonial oppressor and of Dublin's shameful role in supporting the British.

Speaking of why republicans are censored, he concluded:

"It isn't the armed struggle, you know, that's dangerous, it's the ideas that are dangerous, the idea that you can actually have an Ireland that is a national democracy, that you can have an Ireland that is a place where people can actually live with each other, that you can have an end to poverty..."

He said that "the Irish people are as good and as sound and have the same rights to have national self-determination as any other nation anywhere else in the world". He urged all present to stand up for their own national democratic rights and to also stand up for the rights of the people of the Six Counties.



• Gerry Adams addresses a public meeting in Rialto in Dublin on Tuesday, September 2nd

The spell breaks for Gallagher

BY TOM O'DWYER

ONCE UPON A TIME Paddy Gallagher was Ireland's youngest millionaire and the toast of the Dublin yuppies, now he is packing a very small bag and preparing to enter Crumlin Road Jail, Belfast.

It was a story of riches to fantastic opulence and then to rags when he finally went too far. In the next fortnight he is to begin a two-year sentence for financial corruption (probably a year with remission).

For a man who stole millions of pounds from small investors, it is a very light penalty. But it is highly significant that Gallagher — who ripped off the savings of hundreds of retired people on both sides of the border — was not jailed for his crooked dealings in the 26 Counties. The lies and the double-dealing on which he based his career seem to be still quite legal South of the border. Of course, Gallagher's Fianna Fáil connections may have helped him stay out of jail as well.

Gallagher represents one of the uglier aspects of Irish society. Born with money, he was a company director at the age of 12. Between

1974, when he took charge of the family construction firm, and 1982 when the Garda Fraud Squad caught up with him, he increased his wealth by property speculation. In 1979 he bought a St Stephen's Green office block for £5.4 million and sold it for over £7.6 million within five days. He built up a network of 45 companies, all controlled by a headquarters firm based in the Cayman Islands, a tax haven. He was one of the main property speculators in Dublin, destroying a large chunk of the city's built fabric as a result of inadequate planning laws and his helpful political connections.

LENIENT TREATMENT

The legal system on either side of the border treats white-collar crime very leniently, if it punishes such crooks at all. But the sums of money involved are almost incomprehensible. Gallagher persuaded small investors to put their money in his banks in Belfast and Dublin. Then he simply gambled away their money when the bottom began to fall out of the property market.

He was largely unburdened by tax worries and

totally unburdened by any sense that his actions were wrong. In 1983 the *Irish Independent* allowed him make his own case: "I have no regrets about what I have done... You go into business, you understand the system, you make money on the system."

Now the system has administered a slap on the wrist to Paddy Gallagher. The investors in the Six Counties who trusted him lost roughly half their money, the rest was provided by the Bank of England. Those in the 26 Counties got absolutely nothing.



• PADDY GALLAGHER



Swanlinbar road re-opened

THE ROAD from Swanlinbar to the Kinawley/Derrylin area in Fermanagh has been repaired just three days after the British army dug it up. The British army is trying to separate people in the North/West Cavan area from their friends and relations in Fermanagh. But locals on both sides of the border are determined to keep up the links.

Members of the Cavan/Fermanagh Community Association used heavy digging equipment to rebuild the road at Farrelly's Crossing on Wednesday, September 26th. On the previous weekend, the British army destroyed this crossing-point and another nearby crossing known as McCauley's. Farrelly's had been open for nearly a fortnight and McCauley's for three-and-a-half years.

Swanlinbar gardai, who assisted in the destruction, were deeply embarrassed when they found out that McCauley's was also to go. They had only been told that Farrelly's Crossing would be destroyed.

"People just won't stand for this type of treatment at the hands of the crown forces," said Peader Neary, Sinn Féin's Cavan spokesperson. "Our community is a cross-border one and it won't be divided, despite the best efforts of the British."

Neary also called on local people to rally round and help with the Cavan/Fermanagh Association's further road rebuilding plans.

Women in pursuit of freedom

AROUND TWO HUNDRED people from all over the country attended the third annual Sinn Féin Women's Department Conference in the North Star Hotel in Dublin on Saturday last. The conference, 'Women in Pursuit of Freedom 1990', focussed on the morning on women and the economy. In the afternoon session the conference discussed the sexual violence in women's lives.

Presenting the opening paper on Ireland's economy into the '90s, and its implications for women, Anne Speed began by highlighting some key facts:

1 Women receive only 10% of all the world's income and own less than 1% of the world's property;

2 In the 26 Counties, 32% of women are active in the labour force (as compared to 70% of men);

3 Fifty-three per cent of all women over the age of 15 are working in the home — nearly 700,000 women "spending long hours caring for their families and quite often for an elderly or ill relative for little or no pay".

"The outlook for the economy in this state is a bleak one, travelling, as we are, down the road of Western European integration, the scenarios offered for our collective gaze are not encouraging. We are offered the prospect of employment in a warehouse economy with mainly distribution and little or no manufacturing in-

dustry combined with tourist facilities laid on for the very rich, plus a few large farms.

"This scenario, quite simply, a confirmation of the utter failure of capitalism in Ireland. Employers and governments alike like to argue that the Irish economy has done well over the last three years — profits are up, exports are high, there is an apparent trade surplus and interest rates are stable. Most of the mainly right-wing economists also agree with this analysis.

"But this supposed upturn has not benefited everyone. There is no evidence to support the notion that a rising tide of economic prosperity raises all boats."

Anne went on to point out that with multinationals owning 55% of

our industrial assets and exporting billions of pounds in untaxed profits, with 34% of Irish people living below the poverty line of £45 per week for a single person, with cuts in public expenditure being implemented to pay off our government debt of over £25 billion, it is women who bear the brunt, especially poor women who suffer when vital public services are affected — health, education, social welfare and housing.

LOW PAY

The feminisation of poverty, where women form an increasing and more visible proportion of the poor, is a growing feature of Irish society. Within the labour force most women workers are in service jobs and dominate the sectors where wages are lowest — 78% of part-time jobs in the 26 Counties. With employers increasingly seeking a flexible and cheaper labour force in pursuit of

greater profits, women become more vulnerable to greater exploitation and unemployment.

In completing the paper, Anne drew encouragement from some developments:

"The upside of all this is that there is among women, an increased demand for well paid work and all the rights that ought to go with it. How the state and the establishment will deliver will be determined by two main pressure points: from employers on the one hand and from women in their organisations on the other.

"In other words it depends on our side on the activities of the anti-poverty lobby, trade unions and women's interest groups and campaigns.

"Those establishment parties committed to a strategy of 'national' recovery at our expense will deliver only either windy promises or else complete silence. They do not have the political will or interest to marshal the resources of the island around an economic plan that puts the plain working class and small farming people of Ireland first.

"They do not have the political will to bring peace to Ireland by demanding an end to the occupation of the Six Counties and drawing all those interested into an economic and social plan for Ireland. Women have a huge stake in the future of this island. It is time we claimed it."

FACTS HIGHLIGHTED

Eileen Duffy of OBAIR (the campaign for employment in West Belfast) also highlighted some key facts on the economic situation of women in the Six Counties:

● Within the labour movement, women are found in three occupational groups — welfare and health, clerical and related services, and personal services such as catering, cleaning and hairdressing. Women are grossly underrepresented at higher levels in these occupational groups, as well as in skilled, well-paid jobs.

● The enormous decline in indigenous manufacturing industries and the move to an economy heavily reliant on the service sector has meant an increase in the number of part-time unskilled jobs. Females account for 92% of Six-County part-time workers.

● Catholic women are doubly discriminated against — between the ages of 25-44 years 60% of Protestant women have jobs as against 42% of Catholic women.

"Even when educational achievement and qualifications are matched, Catholic women as with Catholic men, are located in jobs with less status and less wages than their Protestant counterparts."

The reality that women want, and need, paid employment for economic, social and personal reasons is denied by the prevalent ideology:

"Despite the economy's reliance on women's waged work, work is not perceived as a moral imperative for women. Women's domestic role is seen as the primary role and jobs open to women are often an extension of the domestic role which involves caring for, waiting on, serving, cleaning and tidying up after others."

Affordable child-care has never been viewed as a priority.

LOSING OUT IN 1992

Eileen warned that the opening of the trade barriers after 1992 will mean that competition for goods and services will be extremely strong, with the potential consequence being further underdevelopment of peripheral



● Recently-released POW Jennifer McCann



● EILEEN DUFFY

er regions including Ireland:

"1992 will have differing implications for different groups of women, depending on their employment and social and geographical location. There will be winners and losers but there will be significant job losses in areas of work where women are heavily concentrated."

In concluding, Eileen made a number of recommendations on measures required to ensure women move towards justice in employment — recommendations on positive discrimination in education, training, recruitment, selection and promotion, including statutory child-care, adequate maternity leave, flexible working hours, job-share and career breaks, properly negotiated work and a statutory minimum wage.

The conference broke up into small groups with plenty of lively discussion. In the reports back from the small groups it was clear that most women felt the absence of affordable child-care is central to women's under-representation and vulnerability in the labour force.

WORKSHOPS REPORT BACK

Recommendations included work-



● Part of the large attendance at this year's Sinn Féin Women's Conference



Jennifer McCann receives a presentation from Sinn Féin's Department

place creches, payment for child-care being offset against tax, minimum wages for child-care and ultimately statutory child-care as a right, not charity. There was a lot of debate around the issue of wages for housework. The exploitation of women in short-term jobs which last as long as tax-incentives last, was also an issue in many small groups.

The need for a strong women's movement which includes working-class women, North and South, was again emphasised.

After lunchtime, the conference was entertained by the excellent 2020 Vision theatre group from Derry.

There was a standing ovation for Jennifer McCann, recently released from Maghaberry, when she received a presentation from Christine Breslin of Sinn Féin's Women's Department.

Jennifer gave an account of conditions for republican women prisoners in jails in the 26 Counties, Six Counties, England and France:

• Durham — Martina Anderson and Ella O'Dwyer are in the secure wing. Many of the prisoners serving sentences for civil offences are severely psychologically disturbed. Medical facilities are very bad — one young woman prisoner recently committed suicide, which has had a lasting effect on Martina and Ella. Some conditions have improved slightly. They now have exercise time of one hour compared with 30 minutes previously. Strip-searching still continues but less

frequently. The greatest hardship is the isolation and the strain and difficulty visiting puts on relatives. Martina and Ella want repatriation but want any campaign for transfer to be part of a campaign for all prisoners in England, they do not want an isolated campaign for them as women;

• Pauline Drumm (France) — conditions were very bad at first but have improved somewhat after a strong campaign. The food is very poor and Pauline is frequently hungry.

• Pamela Kane, who has recently transferred to Limerick Prison, is also severely isolated in a cell eight foot by eight foot. The cell is dirty and the windows are broken. Pamela has applied for a transfer to Portlaoise. Limerick is 128 miles for her family to travel, placing increased strain and hardship on them.

• Maghaberry — There are four sentenced republican women, who are now denied access to other prisoners. Isolation is again being used as a weapon. Censorship is still bad — anything of a republican or feminist nature either doesn't arrive or is delayed for nine or ten months. Strip-searching has decreased but is still taking place. Medical facilities have improved since the intervention of the International Red Cross. One of the major hardships for the women is the severe lack of privacy on visits.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

In the first presentation in the session on the sexual violence in women's lives, Chris Mulvey gave a very moving and disturbing account of her experience in the Philippines. Contrary to the common image, the Philippines is a very lush, rich country. 70-80% of the population live below the poverty line. The country has a history of colonisation, the most recent being the US presence — most evident in massive naval bases. "Prostitution," Chris said, "is organised on a scale almost impossible to imagine" with half a million women working full-time as prostitutes. Sex-tourism is promoted by the government to earn foreign currency, with prostitution the second largest earner of foreign cash.

Eighty percent of the prostitutes in

Manila come from the two poorest islands and 89% quoted poverty as the main reason for being prostitutes. Chris presented a graphic example of the extreme end of exploitation and violence against women. She argued that we can only begin to fight women's oppression when we have a global understanding of the exploitation of women, with the maintenance of the status quo depending on the continued compliance of those at the bottom of the imperialist, racist, sexist system — Black women.

MYTHS CHALLENGED

Onagh Gillespie, Belfast Rape Crisis Centre, began her presentation by highlighting some central facts:

- We will never know the extent of sexual violence in women's lives because many women are forced to stay silent;
- Sexual violence is cross-class;
- 88% of sexual abusers are men, 2% are women;
- One in four girls and one in ten boys suffer some form of sexual abuse;
- Most women who are raped actually know the rapist — only 13.5% report not knowing the rapist;
- 50% of women who are raped, are raped in their own home;
- Over 70% of the women who contact the Rape Crisis Centre do not contact the police — the ordeal of being questioned is often as great as the ordeal of the rape.

Onagh challenged the myths which abound on rape — the myths that facilitate ongoing sexual violence against women — eg men can't control sexual urges, women ask for it, bringing cases to court are the actions of vengeful women. Sexual violence against women is condoned and perpetrated by the state — witness the case of Geraldine Skillen, sexually assaulted by the RUC, and when she protested, subsequently charged with assault and fined.

A great deal of discussion arose at the conference from these two presentations with contributions on pornography, community responses to rapists and abusers, the collective responsibility of men, abortion information and the appalling lack of services for survivors of sexual abuse, particularly in Dublin.

Mairéad Keane of Sinn Féin Women's Department closed a lively and stimulating conference by thanking all the speakers and participants, and by urging people to take these discussions further in their own areas.



• OONAGH GILLESPIE



• (Above and left) 2020 Vision, the Derry theatre group (below, from left) Anne Speed, Martha McClelland and Eileen Duffy



LIFERS PAROLE SCHEME CLOUDS THE ISSUE

A GUARDED welcome from the Campaign for Lifers has met the decision by NIO Minister John Cope to reduce the parole scheme for Lifers/SOSP from 13 to 12 years. While recognizing the "joy that some families must be feeling at the thought of having their loved ones home for Christmas", they believe that the decision is a gesture on the part of the NIO to cloud the issue of the need for fundamental changes to the Life Sentence Review Procedure.

In theory a life or SOSP prisoner is released on merit through the Life Sentence Review Board, but in practice these boards have become nothing more than fronts for the political manipulations of the NIO. All life and SOSP prisoners, whether loyalist or republican, can suffer at the hands of these boards, but statistics show that republicans bear the brunt.

Altogether there are 161 republican life and SOSP prisoners, who between them have served over 2,000 years in prison. Responding to the NIO's decision the head of Sinn Féin POW Department, Richard May, said that the announcement fell far short of positive movement on the lifers issue. He warned:

"Rather it creates the illusion of movement and clouds the real issue affecting lifers — release dates. The decision attempts to further confuse families by giving them false hope that the lifer's release is imminent but as past experience has proven, this is not the case. At present there are men in Long Kesh who have served over 17 years in prison and who have already been out on parole on several different occasions, yet the NIO still refuse to give them release dates."

Robert McClenaghan, a spokesperson from the Campaign for Lifers, which was established in 1988 to campaign for changes in the Review Board responsible for determining whether or not a life/SOSP prisoner should be released, said that while the campaign recognises a positive dimension to these paroles, they are also, in the words of NIO Minister Cope, "part of the battle for hearts and minds". He continued:

"Parole does not equal release, what it does is draw attention away from the operation of the Life Sentence Review Board. The Campaign for Lifers believes that life and SOSP prisoners are being held and used as political hostages. Their continued incarceration, coupled with the cynical use of periods of parole, is geared towards inflicting immense psychological pressure upon them and their families with a view to de-politicising them. We believe that only the immediate and full implementation of the prisoners' six proposals will end the inherent bias and political manipulation behind both releases and paroles. If prisoners can be released on parole, they can and should be released permanently."



• (Above and below) Parents, students and teachers march to the Department of Education

Another promise

broken

BY ART MAC EOIN

THE long-running saga of St Kevin's Community College in Dublin's North Clondalkin area continues. On Tuesday, October 2nd, parents, students and teachers marched to the Department of Education buildings in Marlborough Street to protest at the continued delay in the building of their school.

Placards carried on the march made references to the hoodwinking nature of the negotiations over the school to date. One which bore the message "They lost the plans!" referred to the fact that the parents were told that the architect appointed to build the school had gone on holidays and that his plans could not be found. When another architect was brought in, a member of the Board of Management who saw the plans felt that the proposed building resembled the semi-permanent buildings rejected by them earlier in the year. Although this was denied, subsequent comments seemed to confirm the

suspicion.

Parents of St Kevin's students were informed that their children would be provided with temporary prefabricated buildings by this September which they could use until a permanent school was built for them but as yet nothing has appeared. Two hundred and seventy pupils are still being bussed to a school in Lucan.

HOLD-UP

They were informed that the present hold-up in the building of these prefabs lies with the Department of Finance. Spokesperson Ann O'Hanlon said that "the VEC informed us that

Mary O'Rourke gave the go-ahead for £1/4 million to be spent on the prefabs which would be in use until the permanent school was built. When we last met with them two weeks ago, they told us that they had put forward a submission to the department and that it would cost £1/2 million and it is this discrepancy which has caused the hold-up. The extra £1/4 million added on by the VEC was for the provision of sewerage and other essentials for the permanent school building. We have now been told that none of our kids will be in any form of school building on the Clondalkin site before Christmas. Our children are going to schools in other areas. The second and fifth years are now attending on a part-time basis, about two mornings a week. They are missing out on a hell of a lot of education.

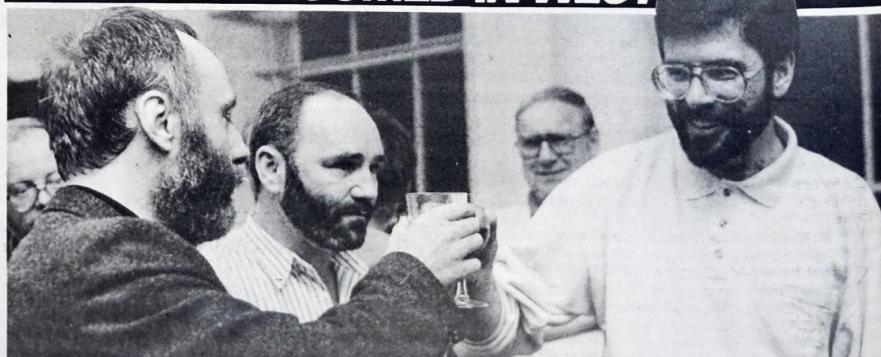
"The week before the children were due back in school after the



summer holidays they sent people up to put a fence around the site. So we have a field with fencing and nothing else," she said.

According to Sinn Féin spokesperson for Clondalkin, John McCann, as parents and schoolchildren of St Kevin's were protesting in the centre of Dublin, they discovered that Mary O'Rourke was in the O'Connell Street branch of the First National Building Society, and approached her about their grievance. "Under pressure she agreed to meet a delegation on Wednesday morning. The parents have received assurances that the temporary school buildings will be up within the next three months. But we will have to wait and see," he said.

KEENAN WELCOMED IN WEST



• Amidst cheers, tears, tin whistles and bodhráns Brian Keenan received an ecstatic welcome befitting a political hostage from the people of West Belfast at a 'people's welcome home' in the Conway Mill on Monday night. Over 300 people crammed into Halla na Saorise bedecked with a 40-foot Council and was then welcomed home by the MP for the area, Gerry Adams. The MP said that it was unfortunate that the opportunity did not arise being well used to welcoming home political hostages I'm sure you'll all agree this is a special occasion.

An Bhreatain an bac is mó ar an teanga

LE CIAN MAC AOIGH

BA E an comhairleoir Sinn Féineach, Gearóid O hEara, a labhair thar cheann Chomhairle Dhoire ag seimineár ar an Ghaeilge san Udarás Aitiúil i nGaeilgeach Thír Chonaill ag deireadh na seachtaíne.

In aitheasac cuinsitheach chuir an Sinn Féini síos ar an dul chun cinn a bhí déanta ag Fo-Choiste Cultúir Chomhairle Dhoire. Ach lásc sé na húdarás ó Thuaith agus mhaigh gurb é "rialtas na Breataine ag bac is mó ar fhorbairt na Gaeilge i dTuaisceart Eireann."

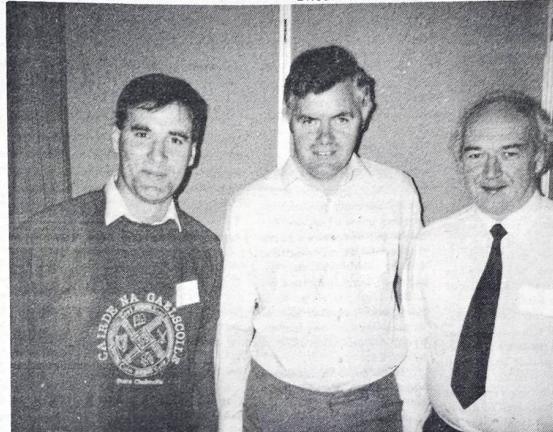
Ar sé leis an chomhdháil in Ostlann Radharc an Eargail i nGaoth Dobhair, Contae Thír Chonaill:

"Níl in aistíarraingt na ndeontas ó Ghór na nGael ach an chuid is gairbhe pholasai frithGhaelach ríaltas na Breataine ag tá buanpholasaithe náireacháile acu atá ag cur bac ar chur chun cinn ár dtéange: an cosc ar shráidainmeacha Gaeilge; an easpa aitheantaí do Ghaelscoil na bhFáil i mBéal Feirste agus Gaelscoil Ruairí in lár Chinn Trá; an cosc ar an Ghaeilge sna prósúin; agus neamhstadas na Gaeilge i gcoitinté."

COSC AR TEILIFIS GAEILGE

Thug an O hEara le fios fosta ag raibh ríaltas na Breataine i ndiaidh

scríobh chuig Comhairle Dhoire ag rá nach raibh beartaithe acu séirbhís teiliúise Gaeilge a cheadú sna Sé Chontae.



• Gearóid O hEara, James McCarry agus Gerry McMenamin

Piseog Marxach



BHI AN COMHRA ag plé ceist na piseoga, tuisméanna, agus na leithéidí an oíche seo agus bhi daoine dinn ag tarraingt a scéalta fén sios faoi taibhsí, púca agus scáilíonna na mBlocanna.

Níl cluinter na scéalta seo chomh mhiniú sna laethanta seo ach is cuimhni liom am nuáir a bhíodh siú mhór iontu. Fad 's a bhí an agóid phíleáide ar suí bhíodh a dtíbhsíochtaí fén in achan sciathán dá gcoréidíteá na staróga.

Bhí Harvey linn ar feadh tameall; bhí mná beaga bána; bhí spír di-cheannaithe; bhí púcaiocht agus bhí firín dubh ab fhéidir leis a dhul-trid na ballaí Samhlaoileach bhoga ab é ea an chuid ba mhí de dár liom.

Dá mb'fhior na scéalta go léir don mhéid púcaí's spúcaí a bhíodh anseo dúnáil na Blocanna blianta ó shin de bhí for-phíodh na h-áithe. Agus leoga tá an cheist fén le cur: an féidir le Marxach abharach creidiúint ar bith a thabhairt do taibhsíochtaí in aon chor?

SCREAD UAFASACH

Bhí Dutch ag athrú scéalta dúnáin. D'insí sé faoin oíche

"Tá na Briotánaigh sásta cearta teanga a dheonú do Ghaidhligeoirí na hAlban agus Breataisíorí na Breataine Bige ach anseo tá cos ar bolg leanúnach á imirt ar an Gaeilge."

NUACHTAIN AITIULA

D'fhreastail corrach le 150 comhairleoir agus oifigeach comhairle ar an tseiméire deireadh seachtaíne a bhí á eagrú ag Bord na Gaeilge agus Roimh an Chomhshaoil ó Dheas. Le linn an tionscail bhí seisiúní ann ar an Ghaeilge agus na nuachtáin aitiúla maraona le tuairiscí ón grúpaí oibre atá bunaithe le háit na Gaeilge sa ríaltas aitiúil a dhraigí.

Ar na baill tofa de Shinn Féin a bhí i láthair bhí James McCarry ó Chomhairle na Maoile, Gerry McMenamin ó Chomhairle an Oraígh agus Máirtín O Muilleoir ó Chomhairle Béal Feirste.



• Máirtín O Muilleoir agus Eoghan O Néill

Duisseanna iriseoireachta

THAINIG dhá cheann de thrí duiseanna iriseoireachta an Oireachtas aduaidh i mbliana. Bhain Eoghan O Néill, eagartheoir Gaeilge Nuachtán Bhaile Andarsan i mBéal Feirste ceann amháin acu agus bhain an Comhairleoir Máirtín O Muilleoir ceann eile ar son a cholúin seachtaíúil ar an nuachtán laethúil Gaeilge, LA.

Is iriseoirí lán-aimseartha iad beirt agus tá siad ag scríobh in Gaeilge agus i mBéal Feirste do léar mór irisí agus nuachtáin ó dhíag siad an ollscail i 1980.

Beidh céad leabhar Uí Muilleoir, *Comhad Comhairleora*, ag teacht amach ag deireadh mi Dheireadh Fómhair.

Ceacht 10

Foghlaim :

Dé Domhnaigh, on Sunday
Dé Luain, on Monday
Dé Máirt, on Tuesday
Dé Céadaoin, on Wednesday
Déardaoin, on Thursday
Dé Aoine, on Friday
Dé Sathairn, on Saturday

beidh mé, I shall be
beidh tú, you will be
beidh sé, he will be
beidh si, she will be

ní bheidh mé, I shall not be
ní bheidh tú, you will not be
ní bheidh sé, he will not be
ní bheidh si, she will not be

an mbeidh mé? shall I be?
an mbeidh tú? will you be?
an mbeidh sé? will he be?
an mbeidh si? will she be?

Léigh :
1. Beidh Seán anseo Dé Domhnaigh.
2. Beidh Nóra ag feachaint ar an teilifis anocht.
3. Beidh Máire ag súigradh sa pháirc ar ball.
4. Beidh Brian sa chathair an tseachtaíne seo chugainn.

Freagair :

1. Cé bheidh anseo Dé Domhnaigh?
2. Cad a bheidh Nóra a dhéanamh anocht?
3. Cad a bheidh Máire a dhéanamh ar ball?
4. Cé mbeidh Brian an tseachtaíne seo chugainn?

Togha ó *Progress in Irish le Máiread Ni Ghráda*, foilsithe ag The Educational Company.

Imeachtaí

ANTI EXTRADITION/
SEGREGATION
White-Line Picket
2-3pm every Saturday
Falls Road/Whiterock Road
Junction
BELFAST
Organised by Belfast Anti-
Extradition Committee

PICKET ON US EMBASSY
Opposing US policy in Central
America
11.30am to 1pm every Saturday
BALLSBURG
Dublin

WHITE-LINE PICKET
'Justice for all'
6-7pm every Friday
Finglas Dual Carriageway
Janelle Shopping Centre
DUBLIN

SEGREGATION WHITE-LINE
PICKET
"Segregation in Crumlin Road Jail"
5-6pm every Saturday
Glenshore Road
MAGHERA
County Derry
Organised by the County Derry
Relatives' Action Committee

ANTI-EXTRADITION
Picket and Leafletting
5.30-6.30pm every Tuesday
O'CONNELL BRIDGE
Dublin

ANTI-EXTRADITION
LEAFLETING
1pm Saturday 29th September
GPO
DUBLIN

DERRY VOLUNTEERS
COMMEMORATIVE EVENING
Presentation, Dinner and Dance
Friday 5th October
DERRY
Admission £12
Contact Derry 368926

FUNCTION
Featuring The Irish Brigade
Saturday 6th October
Equus Lounge
NAVAN
County Meath
Táille £2.50

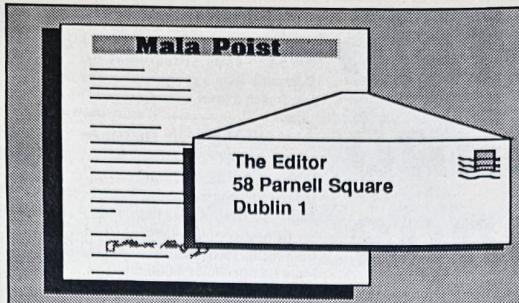
ANTI-EXTRADITION
CAR CAVALCADE
5pm Saturday 6th October
Liberty Hall
DUBLIN

PICKET
Leicester Prison
in commemoration of
Noel Jenkinson and Séan O'Conaill
1.30pm Sunday 7th October
Transport: 12noon Cambridge
Street
BIRMINGHAM

BENEFIT NIGHT
in aid of Inner City News
Featuring: Celtic Posse
8.30pm Thursday 11th October
Molly Malone's
Little Green Street
DUBLIN
Tickets £3/£2 from IC News,
61-62 Amiens Street (top floor),
Dublin

PUBLIC DEBATE
'Neutrality'
8pm Thursday 11th October
Atlanta Hotel
GALWAY
Dermot Guy will
represent Sinn Féin
All politicians in Galway
have been officially invited

INFORMATION DAY
'Irish Women in Struggle'
12-4pm Saturday 13th October
Key Books
136 Digbeth
BIRMINGHAM 5
(continued on page 13)



Youth and the Republican Movement

A Chairde,

I notice the media have of late been taking an interest in the emergence of the so-called Families Against Intimidation And Terror (FAIT), obviously keeping a close eye on any possibility of resuscitating the corpse of the discredited Peace People propaganda bandwagon of over a decade ago. The most recent example has been Liam Clarke's attempt to bring the anti-republican disinformation potentialities of the new "pressure group" to the attention of the British establishment in his "Inside Ireland" column in the September 23rd edition of The Sunday Times, in which he informs us that "the group has benefited from the advice of Father Denis Faul".

How predictable and inevitable that this man who has championed the tactic of undermining the morale and resolve of the republican community from within by using emotional and moral blackmail to divide its people and families against themselves should attach himself limp-like to any movement which offers him any possibility of furthering his determination to chip away at the foundations of the IRA within its own areas.

Make no mistake about it,

Families Against Intimidation And Terror is tailor-made for exploitation as a major propaganda offensive against the republican people by the British media from without and the Catholic Church from within. Organisationally, Sinn Féin should get the ball immediately.

Every FAIT gathering should be met with a counter-demonstration highlighting the real sources of intimidation and terror in the Six Counties: the RUC, the UDR, the British army. Not of course forgetting the intimidation and terror suffered by a beleaguered working-class community at the hands of hoodlums, muggers, rapists and thieves. For every poor unfortunate that minus a kneecap FAIT can bring the media's heartstrings with, we can bring forth a dozen elderly pensioners living alone, terrified by break-ins and violence, and a score of young women afraid to walk the streets at night, all only too happy for any protection afforded by the IRA.

This is not to be complacent about methods of dealing with anti-social activity. The whole issue should be a matter under constant review and debate. Certainly the IRA should be seen to be rigorously fair and using the minimum amount of force relevant to any given situation. The daily realities of life in working-class areas of British-occupied Ireland have produced a powerful sub-culture

of disillusionment and alienation among the youth. We must understand, if not condone, the fact that it is all too easy for the natural energy of youth, frustrated by poverty and lack of hope, to explode in a blind and counter-productive manner. This is the very energy and rage the Republican Movement needs to harness in the fight for national and social liberation. Every 17-year-old from the republican community who robes a pensioner's flat is one we have lost, one we have failed to reach. In my opinion the Republican Movement is not doing enough on the ground to redirect the uncompromising anger of the youth into more productive channels — "outwards against their enemies instead of inwards against themselves".

The Republican Movement should never be complacent about its position in its own community. We should never make the fatal mistake of taking them for granted. Not enough is being done at grassroots level to justify ourselves to our own people, particularly the youth.

In the present difficulty of reaching a wider audience because of state censorship we should put more energy into educating and strengthening the resolve of our own grassroots: ultimately it is they whom we must depend on, not the liberal consciences of a self-interested middle class or flicker British left-wing opinion. There should be more direct contact with the

politically uncommitted working-class youth, more understanding of their concerns and frustrations.

Republicanism should make fresh attempts to break out of its old hidebound routines, presentations and formats. A search of new slogans, a new face should be instigated, a determination to rediscover the verve and energy of the post hunger-strike years, something we are displaying alarming signs of losing. Perhaps the ultimate limitations of the punishments policy should be recognised.

All of this, however, should be only a matter of debate — and, more importantly, action — within the republican community itself. It is vital that the initiative should not be allowed to pass to the parasitical Catholic Church, or the genuine and understandable fears and concerns of the people — our people — we made ripe feeding ground for bloodsuckers like Paul. We must outdo them all in uniting the working-class community behind the only real and meaningful campaign against intimidation and terror in Ireland today: the social, political and military struggle of the men and women of the Irish Republican Movement.

Syd,
Dungannon,
County Tyrone.

Radical arts

A Chairde,

On behalf of the committee of the Radical Arts Group, I would like to extend an invitation to you to attend and participate in our forthcoming one-day series of events in the Conway Education Complex, Conway Street, Belfast, on Saturday, October 20th.

The Radical Arts Group was founded in 1987 to promote the generally unrecognised creative talents and abilities evident within the nationalist community of Belfast. The group hopes to expand the range of cultural outlets available to the community, particularly to young people, by holding a series of workshop, exhibitions, lectures etc. The event in October will coincide with the second anniver-

sary of the British government's formal introduction of censorship — the media ban on selected organisations — and will take place amid the atmosphere of increased political 'witch-hunting' by the Northern Ireland Office.

With the help of cartoonists, mural painters, printers (ranging from silk-screen printers to those working with modern desk-top publishing equipment), banner makers, photographers, independent video film makers and many others, the group hopes to encourage young people to express themselves using their own creativity, and thereby to combat British government censorship.

Because of the Northern Ireland Office's opposition to the Conway Education Complex, it is not possible for us to obtain funding from bodies such as the Arts Council and we are forced to rely on donations from those groups and individuals who recognise the importance of our work and the need to overcome censorship.

If you would like to contribute to our efforts, either financially or in any other way, please contact us at the address below.

Larry O'Hara,
Radical Arts Group,
Conway Education Centre,
Conway Mill,
5/7 Conway Street,
BT13 2DE.

Hostages

A Chairde,

It is strange to see the way that Irish and English newspapers have got worked up about the fate of hostages in Iraq.

These same newspapers didn't get worked up about the fate of hostages during the Irish Civil War in 1922-23. In fact they approved of the execution of 77 republican hostages in Mountjoy Jail, four in the Drumboe Woods in Donegal and further batches all over the Irish Free State.

It was "all right" for Cosgrave and his crew to take hostages and execute them.

It is "all wrong" for Saddam to take hostages and not execute them.

Emmna Monaghan.

UDR THREATEN DUNGANNON YOUTH

ON MONDAY, September 24th, a 19-year-old Dungannon youth, who does not want to be named for fear of further harassment, was stopped by the RUC at Quinns Corner on the Ballygawley line, a few miles outside Dungannon, along with another youth. Both were subjected to the 'normal' petty harassment meted out to hundreds of nationalists on a daily basis. They were questioned and searched before being allowed to continue on their journey.

An hour later, the two youths were again stopped at a crown forces checkpoint, this time a joint UDR/RUC checkpoint. The older youth was ordered to get out of the vehicle. During the course of questioning, he was asked his age. He continues:

"When I said I was 19 years of age, one of the UDR men said that some of those shot dead at Loughgall were of the same age and that I would be meeting a similar fate. It

may seem trivial to people but given what has happened in the past I am genuinely concerned for my safety and wish to place on record what has happened."

The youth has contacted a solicitor and logged the incident.

Commenting on the incident, local Sinn Féin spokesperson, Peter Corrigan, said that it is an indication of the confidence with which the UDR feel that they can harass, intimi-



date and threaten nationalists that the UDR man went on to advise the youth that if he felt he was being harassed he should "complain to the RUC".

Another assault in Cork

CORK Sinn Féin and Fianna Éireann member, Don Bullman, was recently assaulted by members of the Garda Special Branch while walking down Cork's Tramore Road on his way to the shops. The Branch told Bullman that he was a member of an illegal organisation and that he could go to jail for this and asked whether his parents knew he was in this organisation. He refused to give them his date of birth.

When he finished his business in the shop, the gardai waited around the corner while he went into a phone box and rang the Cork Sinn Féin office to relate what had happened to him and to ask advice on what to do as it was his first experience of Branch harassment. Following this phone call he went home.

Later, at 8.15pm, Don Bullman made his way to the house of another Sinn Féin member, Paul Walshe, who himself has been the victim of recent assaults by the Special Branch in Cork. Bullman was stopped again by Special Branch members at the flats on Togher Road where he was thrown against some steps. When he stood up a Branchman hit him several times in the chest. They asked him where he was going and when he said that he was on his way to a friend's house, they told him to get into their car. By this stage Bullman was enduring a bad fit of coughing as a result of the punches he received to the chest and refused to get in but the car continued to follow him as he went to Walshe's house.



The grip of the land

IN THE wake of *My Left Foot*'s Oscar successes, much was expected of the latest offering from Jim Sheridan and Noel Pearson.

The Field, starring, among others, Richard Harris, John Hurt and Frances Tomelty, delivers on many fronts, but nevertheless leaves much to be desired.

Harris plays the lead role of the Bull McCabe, a powerful, brooding figure, beset by the loss of a son in circumstances never fully explained. He has not spoken to his wife since the incident, which occurred a mere 20 years earlier! Brenda Fricker is interesting in the role, but like most of the characters, she merely functions as a foil to Harris's McCabe.

The film begins with an atmospheric scene, beautifully captured, in which Richard Harris and Sean Bean, as the Bull McCabe and his son Tadgh, are seen carrying sea-

weed from the shore to their smallholding, the field of the title, which is the only fertile ground in the locality. They have rented the field from the Widow Currie and have transformed it from a rockstrewn barren patch.

Trouble arises when the Widow decides to sell the field by public auction. McCabe is understandably determined to buy and will brook no competition from the locals. No-one is keen to bid against him, such is his reputation, but there emerges a rival in the form of a returned 'Yank', played by Tom Berenger. As in the case of McCabe's wife, the character of the 'Yank' is never fully explored, he seems merely a cardboard cut-out or rival playing piece in McCabe's gameplan.



● Sean Bean and Richard Harris in *The Field*

Yet to dwell on these faults would be to ignore what is indeed a mesmeric exploration of

an old theme — the hold that the land maintains on its people. As McCabe retreats further

into insanity in his bid to hold onto his field, the consequences of his actions affect all around him until we witness the final scene where he wades into the sea trying desperately to turn back the waves.

In its imagery and symbolism *The Field* is a memorable adaptation of John B Keane's great play. The cinematography is superb, and it may well be in the running for an award in this category. But while Richard Harris's performance is laudable, one cannot help feeling that the late, great Ray McAnally, who was initially earmarked for the role, would have walked off with all the honours but for his untimely demise.

Other notable performances include John Hurt in a hilarious portrayal of the 'Bird' O'Donnell and John Cowley (Tom Riordan) as the auctioneer.

Sometimes harrowing, at other times very humorous, *The Field* in spite of its faults might yet assume the status of minor classic.

Imeachtaí

(continued from page 12)

MARCH

'Don't extradite Dessie Ellis to British injustice'
2pm Saturday 13th October
Parnell Square
DUBLIN
March to GPO
Speakers: Owen Carron, Bobby Ballagh, Martha Ellis

PROTESTS

to mark the 2nd anniversary of the British government's
Broadcasting Ban
Friday 19th October
7am to 8am TV-AM, Hawley Crescent
Camden Lock
LONDON NW1
9am to 10.30am, BBC
Broadcasting House
Portland Place
LONDON W1
4.30pm to 6pm LWT, Kent House
Upper Ground, Southbank
LONDON SE1
Organised by the Troops Out Movement

WEEKEND EDUCATION SEMINAR

Friday October 26th to Sunday
October 28th
CAVAN
Cost £5/£10 waged
Contact: Education Department
01-726932/532763

FILM

'Ireland — Myths and censorship'
8pm Monday 29th October
'The Irish Question'
Haringey Irish Centre
Pretoria Road
(off White Hart Lane)
TOTTEHAM N17
London
Cost: £1 waged/50p concession
Organised by Haringey IRBG

Smullen's last trial

EAMONN SMULLEN, the former Workers' Party executive member who died a fortnight ago in Italy, delivered a posthumous slap in the face to the party in the pages of last week's *Sunday Business Post*. Smullen headed the party's economic think-tank until he disagreed with his party superiors earlier this year. The article describes his subsequent treatment in scathing detail.

Smullen tells the story of "my three trials — by the Workers' Party executive in Dublin in early 1990, by Judge Killen-Brown in Britain in early 1970 and by a court of uniformed military officers at Collins Barracks in Dublin in mid-1943". Again and again he suggests that there is little to distinguish the 'justice' meted out by his former comrades from that of a military tribunal or a bigoted British judge.

Echoing the fears of many, Smullen addresses the following question to his former comrades: "If this is how you behave towards a comrade of many years' service, riding rough-shod over the party constitution... in order to remove him from office where there has [sic] been no complaints of any kind about his work, how

would you behave towards the working class and the Irish people if you had any real power?"

For 17 years, Smullen was an executive member of the WP and its sticky ancestors Official Sinn Féin and Sinn Féin — The Workers' Party. With his protégé Eoghan Harris, he provided some of the party's guiding ideas. But, in only a few days, Harris was bounced out of the organisation and Smullen was demoted. They were the victims of a bitter faction-fight in which personal animosities took over from political differences.

INTENSE BITTERNESS

For some time, Smullen and Harris had been watching smugly as a group of former student leaders, including Pat Rabbitte and Eamonn Gilmore,



● EAMONN SMULLEN

rose and rose through the party ranks. These 'student princes' (Harris's term) began to erode the power of Smullen's Economic Affairs Department. Intense bitterness grew up between Smullen's friends and the Rabbitte clique. Party chief Pádraig de Rossa and general secretary Seán Garland tried to balance between them.

Both factions were bitterly anti-nationalist and they also

shared a determination to turn the party further to the right.

The events in Eastern Europe

provided a battle-ground for them. Harris wrote an article

about these changes, advocating a wild shift to the right. The party leadership hummed and hawed over whether to publish it. Smullen broke the stalemate by publishing it in a journal of which he was the editor.

That action was what cost him his executive seat. Pádraig de Rossa claimed that he had disobeyed a party instruction although Smullen showed that he was within his rights. At first, de Rossa wanted Smullen to be expelled but Rabbitte, worried about seeming to suppress 'free speech' within the Workers' Party, disagreed. "This is not the place to do him," said Rabbitte during an executive meeting. "We should do him at the Ard Fheis."

Smullen was reduced to the level of the rank-and-file. Harris resigned in protest at the time but the economic department chief waited until the Ard Fheis some weeks later. That conference was the scene of a high-profile split when delegates such as Jimmy Brick, the WP's Galway councillor, walked out of the hall.

ET TU BRUTUS

Smullen's article clearly shows that he had heard of William Shakespeare and that he saw himself in an heroic,

Shakespearean mould. Seán Garland becomes a 'Brutus', stabbing Smullen (Julius Caesar) in the back. Dessie O'Hagan treads the boards as an 'Iago', recalling the 'friend' who betrayed Othello, another Shakespearean hero.

Rhetoric apart, Smullen's article also gives a vivid picture of how the Workers' Party comes to decisions. You can clearly see the strings as they are pulled. At one point during his 'trial', the economic guru approached Garland and told him that he would not appeal the decision. Garland was horrified: "You'll f... things up if you do that," he cursed.

Garland & Co seem to have thought that they could keep the disagreement within four walls by humiliating Smullen for a period and then bringing him back into the inner circle. They underestimated the bitterness of feud so intense that it has continued beyond the grave.

The *Sunday Business Post* article is an excerpt from Smullen's unfinished autobiography — he was working for the paper when he died. Although the *Post* does not definitely say so, it seems as if further revelations may come out in the future. If so, de Rossa, Rabbitte and Garland have quite a lot to worry about.

Join Sinn Féin

SINN FEIN is dedicated to forcing a British withdrawal from the occupied Six Counties, the re-unification of our country and the establishment of a democratic socialist republic.

If you would like to join Sinn Féin, or find out more about our activities and policies, fill in the form below and send it to Sinn Féin, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

Name

Address

Tel



CONFERENCE TO PREPARE FOR EASTER '91

THE 75th anniversary of 1916 is likely to be an experience which members of the Dublin establishment will remember for a long time, despite their attempts to forget nearly everything about the Easter Rising.

Plans are already afoot. The Reclaim the Spirit of Easter Committee (RSE), backed by the Forum for a Democratic Alternative (FADA) and the Irish National Congress, has organised

a conference for Dublin on Saturday, October 6th, in Liberty Hall. This conference, which is aimed at expanding the work of the Reclaim the Spirit of Easter Committee (RSE), is due to begin at 9.30am sharp.

The RSE intends to set up local organising committees in the regions and to prepare for a national Parade and Pageant in Dublin on Easter Sunday 1991.

Establishment political leaders, academics and journalists all pretend that the spirit of Easter 1916 has vanished and that people in the 26 Counties have lost interest in the Rising. The truth is more that the establishment has become frightened of the implications of the Rising. The very act of remembering it could turn out to be very subversive.

That is one more reason to make sure that you're there on Saturday next. Don't miss your chance to get involved.



Another failed decade?

THE biggest-ever meeting of national political leaders in the world occurred at the weekend's UNICEF meeting in New York. They came together to agree a package of measures to improve the lot of children. Infant and under-five child deaths are to be cut by a third in the next decade. The number of women who die in childbirth is to be halved as is malnutrition. Clean water and basic education are to become fundamental rights.

If the press statements are to be believed, the world's leaders did a very great thing. But one small fact puts a large question mark after their grand gesture. The decade 1980-89 was also started with a grand gesture "Safe water and sanitation for all by 1990" was the slogan and UN General Secretary Kurt Waldheim announced that it was "eminently attainable".

But, by the end of the decade, 300 million more people were without sanitation than in 1980! The signs are that the coming 'Decade of the Child' will be equally successful.

That is not to say that UNICEF did nothing between 1980 and this year. The UN's international children's fund did help to provide 715 million people with new taps and pumps, reducing water-borne diseases, the world's biggest killers. But in the Third World population grew by 614 million during that period and many new pieces of equipment were just not up to the job, leaving the situation worse, not better, than before.

GUILTY ONES

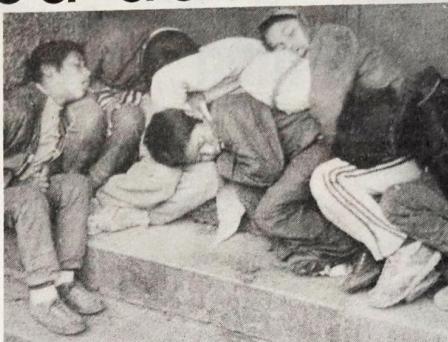
The ones guilty of preventing a solution to these problems are

some of the very world leaders who presented themselves to the press at the weekend. The developed, capitalist states and the companies which are based among them have caused the poverty which leads to these diseases.

Governments like that of the US have vastly increased their armaments while cutting their aid to the Third World. During the ten years before 1988, the US increased its arms spending by 21% and cut its overseas aid by 14.8%. Just a tiny fraction of the military expenditure could have saved hundreds of thousands of lives, but world power was more important to President Reagan and continues to be Bush's guiding light.

Bad water causes around 80% of all diseases, including diarrhoea, and the dehydration caused by diarrhoea has killed 150 million children since 1949. The last world survey in 1985 showed that in developing countries only 15.6% of people had access to adequate sanitation.

Today more than 100 million children in the world live on the streets and a similar number have no access to primary schooling while 155 million live in absolute poverty. Around 14 million children



● Millions of children live, work and sleep on city streets

are expected to die of malnutrition and other easily treated diseases this year — 40,000 per day. The greed of the First World is responsible for many of these deaths. Companies like the Swiss multinational Nestlé market bottle-feeding for babies in spite of the fact that this method is considerably less healthy than breast-feeding in countries where there is no proper sanitation to clean the bottles.

Immunisation programmes have not been sufficiently funded. Every minute, eight children under five years old die in the Third World because they haven't been vaccinated. Only half of all Third World children are immunised against measles and only 55% are vaccinated against the other five major killer diseases (tetanus, whooping cough, diphtheria, tuberculosis and polio).

Malnutrition in the Third World has also been on the increase during the last ten years. In Thailand, a country not normally thought to be among the poorest, malnutrition among children under six rose from 41% to 68% between 1980 and 1983. In Ghana, pre-school malnutrition went from 35% to 54% in the four years after 1980.

HUMAN GUINEA PIGS

But the most horrific and revealing fact of all is that in Thailand, one of the capitalist 'success stories' in the Far East, children are being used as human guinea-pigs to test the pain-killing drug dipyrone. One study involved 60 Thai children between four and seven years old — in spite of the fact that such testing is banned under all known international guidelines.



The German multinational drug company Hoechst was involved in these tests. Dipyrone is banned in many countries because there are fears that it has lethal side-effects. Obviously testing children is cheaper than testing adults who know what they're undergoing. But some scientists believe that there is a secondary reason for the tests.

They fear that Hoechst is pursuing the trials in order to delay any ban on the drug in Thailand. This is a procedure which Hoechst has followed in other countries, claiming that 'results are not yet conclusive'. In 1987, dipyrone-based drugs accounted for a full 5% of Hoechst's world-wide sales.

The activities of Hoechst form a good example of the role of multinational companies in the Third World — a role which is much at variance with the benevolent image presented by the world leaders at the weekend. So is the inflated war budget of the powerful nations.

At the UNICEF meeting, the heads of government voted to spend \$2.5 billion on child health over the next ten years. A sum much larger than that is necessary but this should — at the very least — be accompanied by curbs on companies like Nestlé and Hoechst. Changing the developed countries' relationship with the underdeveloped world means ending exploitation. The New York meeting was a long way from that.

Twomey honoured at Milltown

SEVERAL HUNDRED people joined members of the Twomey family in Belfast's Milltown Cemetery on Sunday, September 30th, to pay honour to veteran republican and IRA Volunteer Séamus Twomey, who died last year after a long battle with illness.

A parade led by a colour party from the Roddy McCorley Society, formed up at the gates of the cemetery and marched through the graveyard to Twomey's grave where a large Celtic cross inscribed

in Irish was to be unveiled.

Proceedings were chaired by comrade and personal friend, Prionsias Mac Airt, who welcomed those in attendance before calling for the playing of the *Last Post*.

With opening ceremonies complete Brid Twomey, Séamus' daughter, unveiled the monument to her father before handing over to the guest speaker, Gerry Adams.

In his opening remarks Adams said:

"Is ócadá brónach é seo ach ócadá bródúil ag an am céanna. Tá sé brónach ar an ábhar go bhfuilimid a' chuirimhniú ar ár goara Séamus, agus bródúil ar an ábhar go raibh sé ina feair agus a shaighdiúir cróga.

"When it is my sad duty to speak at memorials like this I often stress that we should not mystify or encourage the building of myths about fallen comrades. I think it robs them of their humanity, which is the very thing the British strive to rob republicans of. It is also bad politics. It suggests that people like Séamus were superhuman, extraordinary people and that we all need to match their achievements if we want to be involved in the struggle. Mere mortal could thus be forgiven for thinking that we have no role to play in the struggle. Séamus Twomey would disagree strongly, in his own direct way, with such an approach."

UNIQUE

Commenting on Séamus Twomey's involvement in the struggle, however, Adams noted that it was "difficult not to leave



● (Above) Celtic cross at Séamus Twomey's grave (above, right) Gerry Adams addresses the gathering

oneself open to building myths." He continued:

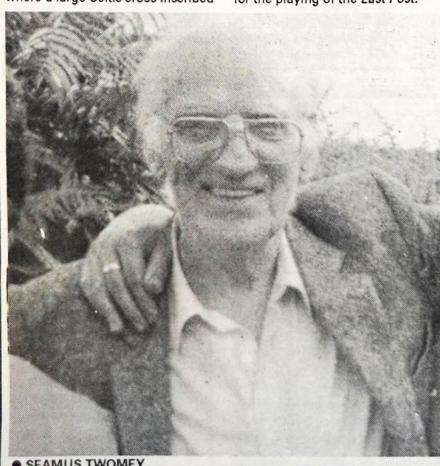
"In describing his involvement over the last 20 years the stuff of myths is all there, the re-organising of the IRA in the aftermath of 1969; O/C of the Belfast Brigade after 1971; talks with the British in 1972; Chief-of-Staff of the IRA; his arrest in the 26 Counties and his helicopter escape with JB O'Hagan and Kevin Mallon; back on the run again; prison again; back into the struggle travelling North and South and further afield, and all this when he was 30 years older than the rest of us. So Séamus Twomey was unique. He was one of the few who was chosen and accepted on a basis of mutual respect as a leader by younger com-

rades. This was probably one of the things he valued most."

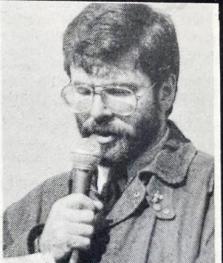
Speaking of Séamus' private life Adams noted how, back in the '60s, both he and Rosi could have easily believed when raising their young family in Andersonstown that they as veterans of previous campaigns who had both seen imprisonment were finished but when extraordinary times came they responded and gave fully of their lives in the struggle, a struggle which was to make demands and keep making demands on them.

Concluding, Adams said:

"It was a privilege to know him in life, daunting though it may be to complete the unfinished business and the legacy he left us."



● SEAMUS TWOMEY



OBITUARIES

WILLIAM McGuigan

WILLIAM (Willy) McGuigan, whose death occurred in Dublin on Thursday, September 27th, was born into a republican family in Belfast and, although he didn't join Oglach na hEireann until 1969, he was involved in community work with the Scout movement and was well known and liked in the greater New Lodge area where he lived.

Arrested in July 1971 while on active service, he was sentenced to 12 years imprisonment. Willy took

part in the successful 1972 hunger-strike which after 36 days saw the large turnout at his own funeral.

AN PHOBLAICHT/REPUBLICAN NEWS, Thursday, October 4th, 1990 — Leathanach 15

lapse and political status being granted.

In 1975 he was brought to Newry Courthouse to face charges of attempted escape and then with nine of his comrades took part in the dramatic escape from that courthouse.

With his wife and children Willy set up home in Tallaght where he once again became involved in work with his adopted community and their love for him and his family was shown at the turnout of his son Eamonn's funeral in 1987 and the large turnout at his own funeral.

I measa laochra a muintir go raibh a anam uasal.



Annie Carr Shiels

IT WAS WITH sadness that republicans learned of the death last week of Annie Carr Shiels. Born in the Fanad Peninsula of Donegal on January 7th, 1895, Annie emigrated to the USA at the age of eleven. She returned to Ireland four years later and married her husband Neil, the son of a Fenian. Her father-in-law, along with two other Fanad men, shot dead the infamous Lord Leitrim, so ending the scourge of landlordism in Donegal.

REMEMBERING THE PAST

YOUNG IRELAND POET

BY PETER O'ROURKE

FRANCIS DAVIS, the Young Ireland poet who became known to the readers of *The Nation*, as 'The Belfastman', was born in Ballincollig, County Cork, in March 1810.

The son of a Royal Artillery officer, Davis moved to Belfast at an early age and attended school in the village of Hillsborough. However, despite having to leave school at the age of ten, he continued his studies and became fluent in French, Latin, Greek and Irish.

A Protestant of independent views, he left Belfast in 1843 as a result of his resentment of pressure to join an Orange Lodge. He moved first to Scotland, and afterwards to Manchester where he became aware of the work of *The Nation* in

Annie and her husband Neil moved to Gibbstown in County Meath in 1937, and her home sheltered such republicans as Charlie Daly and Harry White. Annie and her husband returned to Donegal to live in 1950 where they continued their business as tailors.

When the anti-nationalist pogroms engulfed Belfast in 1969 Annie was to the fore in aiding her fellow nationalists from the Six Counties. Over the years her home in Donegal has given shelter to many weary republicans.

At the age of 93 Annie flew to England to visit her grandson, Con McFadden, who was nearing the end of a 20-year sentence for his republican activities.

HARASSED

Due to her loyalty to the republican ideal, Annie was raided and harassed on countless occasions by 26-County forces.

She was buried on Friday, September 28th, in her native Donegal and her coffin was draped in the Tricolour. Donegal Sinn Féin County Councillor Liam McElhinney gave the graveside oration.

On the following night Volunteers of Oglach na hEireann fired a volley of shots as a mark of respect.

To her sons, daughters and her many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren, the Republican Movement extends its sympathy. I measa laochra na nGael go raibh a hanam.

"reawaken Ireland's soul". His best known poem, mourning the death of Davis, one of the founders of *The Nation*, appeared in the paper shortly after his death in September 1845.

Davis eventually returned to Ireland and settled in Belfast where he worked as a muslin weaver before editing a short-lived magazine in 1850 called *The Belfastman's Journal*. He published a number of volumes of his poems throughout the 1850s and '60s and his collected poems, *Earlier and Later Leaves*; or *An Autumn Gathering*, appeared in 1878 though very few of his poems have survived.

In the introduction to his collected poems, a contemporary wrote, "Ireland is deeply indebted to Francis Davis for the notes of thrilling melody that has contributed to the incessant chorus of her national song. The full force of his poetical talents appears in his national pieces..."

Francis Davis died aged 75 on October 7th, 1885, 105 years ago this week.

I nDil Chuimhne

McAREAVEY, Daniel (18th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Daniel McAreavey, Oglach na hEireann, who was shot by British soldiers as he lay wounded on the ground on October 6th 1972. "They may kill the revolutionary but never the revolution." — Che Guevara. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

McAREAVEY, Daniel (18th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Daniel McAreavey, 'D' Coy, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglach na hEireann, who died on active service on October 6th 1972. They may kill the revolutionary but never the revolution. Always remembered and never forgotten by his loving brother Paddy.

McAREAVEY, Daniel (18th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Daniel McAreavey, 'D' Coy, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglach na hEireann, who was shot dead while on active service on October 6th 1972. Your memory I treasure with thoughts that are dear. I think of you always not just once a year. Always remembered by his loving brother Hugh, wife Mary and family.

McALEEVEY, Daniel (18th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Daniel McAreavey, 'D' Coy, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglach na hEireann, who died on active service on October 6th 1972. Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for him... I measa laochra na nGael go raibh a sé. Always remembered by the Lower Falls Commemoration Committee.

McDERMOTTE, Terry (17th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Terry McDermott, 1st Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglach na hEireann, who was killed in an accidental explosion on October 2nd 1972. I measa laochra na nGael go raibh a sé. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

McLAUGHLIN Raymond (5th Anniversary). The Revolutionary Communists Group Fight Racism! Fight Imperialism! salute the courage and dedication of IRA Vol Ray McLaughlin, who died on Monday, September 9th 1985. He spent ten years in British prisons. Throughout his life, inside and outside prison, he was a republican fighter, a socialist and an internationalist. Communists and publicists will always remember him. O' CONAILL, Sean (10th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Sean O'Conaill, Sinn Féin, who died as a result of medical neglect while incarcerated in Parkhurst Prison. Al-

ways remembered with pride by the Republican Movement.

QUIGLEY, Jimmy (18th Anniversary). In sad and loving memory of my beloved son Jimmy Quigley, who died on September 29th 1972. RIP. Will those who think of him today, a little prayer to Jesus say. Remembered always by his loving Mother.

QUIGLEY, Jimmy (18th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my brother Vol Jimmy Quigley, 'D' Coy, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglach na hEireann, who was killed on active service on September 29th 1972. To have you as a brother was cause enough for pride, no-one could be your equal, no matter how hard they tried. We lost a brother in a million, we loved you to the end. I lost two precious things that day, my brother and my friend. Time may pass and fade away but silent thoughts and memories stay. Always remembered by his brother Marcus and family.

QUIGLEY, Jimmy (18th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my brother Vol Jimmy Quigley, 'D' Coy, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglach na hEireann, who was killed on active service on September 29th 1972. It is not those who can inflict the most but those who can endure the most who will conquer in the end. Always remembered by his brother Gerard and family.

QUIGLEY, Jimmy (18th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of my brother Vol Jimmy Quigley, 'D' Coy, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglach na hEireann, who was killed on active service on September 29th 1972. Miss you with all my heart. Shall never forget you. Forever remembered by his brother Ray and family.

QUIGLEY, Jimmy (18th Anniversary). In proud and loving memory of Vol Jimmy Quigley, 'D' Coy, 2nd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglach na hEireann, who was killed on active service on September 29th 1972. RIP. Always remembered by the McFadden family.

REILLY, Jim (10th Anniversary). The Revolutionary Communist Group Fight Racism! Fight Imperialism! honour the memory of Jim Reilly, Luton Sina Féin, and organiser for Sinn Féin (Britain), who died on September 26th 1980. Right up to the moment of his death, Jim Reilly continued his lifelong struggle as a revolutionary republican, to free Ireland from British rule. For this he earned the hatred of British imperialism which hounded him to his death.

Comhbhhrón

McKINLEY. Deepest sympathy is extended to Cindy and the McKinley family circle on the death of Robert. From Paddy and Kathleen O'Regan and family.

McKINLEY. Sincere sympathy is extended to Cindy and the McKinley family circle on the death of Robert. From Harry and Caroline McAlinden.

McKINLEY. Deepest sympathy is extended to Cindy and the McKinley family circle on the death of Robert. From Rustie and Brenda Kinnane.

McKINLEY. Sincere sympathy is extended to Cindy and the McKinley

family circle on their sad loss. From John McComb.

McKINLEY. Deepest sympathy is extended to Cindy and family on the death of Robert 'Scubert' McKinley on September 18th. I measa laochra na nGael go raibh a sé. From D. Crothers Jr.

McLAUGHLIN. Heartfelt sympathy is extended to our friend and comrade Pearse McLaughlin on the recent death of his brother Raymond 'Gus'. From Bob and family.

Beannachtaí

McKAY, Gary (Crumlin Road). Happy 21st birthday wishes. From all the brothers and sisters.

McKAY, Gary (Crumlin Road). Happy 21st birthday. From your sisters Paula and Tursa.

McKAY, Gary (Crumlin Road). Happy 21st. From your friends in Donaghmore.

STEWART, Sean (Portlaoise). Happy

birthday. From Mum and Dad.

STEWART, Sean (Portlaoise). Best wishes on your birthday. From your brothers and sisters.

STEWART, Sean (Portlaoise). Birthday greetings. From your nieces and nephews.

STEWART, Sean (Portlaoise). Happy birthday. From Granny McArdle and the McArdle family.

NOTICES DEADLINE

All notices should be in our Dublin or Belfast offices no later than 5pm Monday for inclusion in that week's paper.



SO THE AP/RN monicker has finally stuck. This was the headline in the *Today* newspaper on Friday, September 28th, referring, of course, to our old friend, Commander George Clueless-Coleman.

And the following day the paper continued its onslaught on the hapless Commander, in a piece by David Seymour "on the man who runs the anti-terrorist squad like Inspector Clouseau".

In a harshly critical piece, Seymour refers to Churchill-Coleman's love of the media limelight, commenting: "But now he has learned to play to the cameras he doesn't miss a trick."

"Neither, of course, does the IRA. And that is part of the problem. Yesterday they were crowing over their ability to place that bomb. It was utterly sickening. They clearly feel they are winning and the performances of their principal opponent cannot instil us with confidence that the tide will soon turn against them."

"George Churchill-Coleman is not so much Poirot as Clouseau."

IN A WEEK when Scotland Yard has been coming under increasing media pressure over the ease with which Oglai na hEireann managed to carry out an operation under their noses at the Royal Overseas Club, the news that British Armed Forces Minister Archie Hamilton had the car which he was using stolen from the car-park of Swansea's Holiday Inn Hotel, where he was attending a function, must be an added source of embarrassment. This was just 24 hours after the Overseas Club incident.

It was only thieves this time but Archie really should be more careful.

AND what about the discovery of a load of highly-classified files in a London lorry-park?



THE FLYING COLUMN

Dúirt Siad

In personal terms she has obviously suffered quite a lot since 1984, and I don't think she's all that rational in dealing with IRA operations. She was almost killed, and I think that our words after Brighton still haunt her — Today we were lucky. But remember, we only have to be lucky once. You will have to be lucky always. — IRA spokesperson in an interview with David McKittrick in the London *Independent* on Saturday, September 29th.

OOO

We will increasingly bring the war to the attention of the British public, and to the doorsteps of those who sustain the conflict. They are rattled, and we will not continue to rattle them but will rattle them harder. — IRA spokesperson.

OOO

Remember, joyriding isn't solely confined to West Belfast. It happens in East, South Belfast. It happens throughout the Six Counties. Indeed, the crime figures for Great Britain last week, again showed joyriding very much on the increase there. The major difference is that in West Belfast you are killed for it. — Michael O'Doherty, West Belfast community worker, on the murder of two young people in a stolen car by members of the Parachute Regiment.

OOO

It failed due to the extensive vigilance and precautions taken by the organisation and the police. — Commander George Churchill-Coleman, after sound engineer Abel Otis Onilude discovered the IRA bomb at the Overseas Club.

OOO

Isn't it a fact that it was only by a sheer fluke that the bomb was discovered by the club's banqueting manager and a TV sound engineer?

Isn't it a further fact that if it had been left to police and security vigilance, the whole conference and probably everyone attending it would have gone up in a puff of smoke? — John Junior in the *Mail* on Sunday, September 30th.

OOO

In a sharp personal attack yesterday, the *Today* newspaper claimed Commander George Churchill-Coleman — svae head of the Anti-Terrorist Squad for the last five years — has not been responsible for a single arrest.

Though this may not be strictly accurate, few can doubt that if his arrest record equalled that of his TV appearances Britain would be a safer place. — *News of the World* editorial, Sunday September 30th.

OOO

Commander George Churchill-Coleman, head of Scotland Yard's Anti-Terrorist Squad, said last night that concern at the IRA's mainland campaign was in danger of degenerating into public hysteria. In an interview with the *Observer*, he reacted angrily to jibes that he ran the squad 'like Inspector Clouseau'. — David Rose, Home Affairs Correspondent for the *Observer*, Sunday, September 30th.

OOO

In one part of London SW1, Mrs Thatcher chairs a ministerial mini-summit on terrorism. In another part of London SW1, the IRA plants a bomb — at a conference on terrorism. Has Mrs Thatcher's one-dimensional response to Ulster's troubles ever been more graphically exposed?...

... In the light of yesterday's fiasco, it will be hard for her to lecture the world on security for a while.

As she reflects on how close she came to losing her Foreign Office minister, we hope she realises that her one-track mind has so far proved incapable of solving one of Britain's biggest problems. — *Daily Mirror* editorial, Friday, September 28th.

OOO

I'll visit every county in Ireland. — Brian Lenihan on October 1st. Oh yeah? Armagh? Antrim? Tyrone? Derry? Fermanagh? Down?

OOO

When you go Paddy, there's no sense in doing it unless you go all the way. — Independent unionist councillor, Frank Millar, referring to Brian Keenan's meeting with Gerry Adams.

OOO

Rickety old knights in rusty armour who ride into Parliament on ancient steeds... They are supposed to be part of the whole of the United Kingdom, but they seem only interested in their part... They are not taken seriously throughout the rest of Britain. — Former British junior health minister, Edwina Currie, on Tuesday last, referring to 'Paddy' MPs from the Six Counties.