

# An Phoblacht

Iml. 5. Uimh. 9. 5p. Marta 1, 1974.

# KITSON TAKING OVER IN DUBLIN D.O.D.?

THOUSANDS of trade-unionists, Republican militants and other socialists being herded into the Dublin R.D.S. under the threat of loaded machine-guns; random executions; mutilated bodies floating down the Liffey; a Chilean-style coup in Ireland: politics-fiction or impending danger?

As the recruiting drive of the "Free" State armed forces gets under way there are reports that Kitson's techniques have been accepted completely by the Dublin Department of Defence and we invite the Dublin Defence Minister, Mr. Donegan, and his colleagues, to deny that:

● a manual has been issued and circulated in the last three months to a restricted number of top senior officers of the Army and members of the administration, with a special emphasis on the fact that the existence of such a document should not be known by the public;

● That this document is based on the experience of internal counter-insurgency but especially that of the British army;

● That the main purpose of this confidential document is to outline the changes necessary to organise a functional "peace-keeping force" capable of intervening efficiently against any sign of militant challenge to the "Free" State (particularly a workers' offensive or general strike); thus, that it lays the basis for preparation for civil war in the foreseeable future;

● That a substantial passage of the manual relates to the questions of street-fightings and elaborates on what circumstances are required to order shooting against demonstrators.

Since the Pro-Treaty Army, under the leadership of Dick Mulcahy, replaced the Black-and-Tans, Republicans lost any illusions as to the nature and role of the Dublin army as a defensive force. It started as it was meant to continue, as the watchdog of gombeen capitalism, the transmission belt of British imperialism in our country.

However, for the general public, the "Free" State army through the years seemed to play a "progressive role": the "wild geese" flew away, becoming some kind of "peace-keeping force" in countries such as Aden, Cyprus, Congo and, today, the Middle-East. But in these countries they were doing

the same job for which the British army came to the Six Counties, only these places were remote from Ireland, and the role of the army was not seen as clearly as it should have been.

## Stood idly by

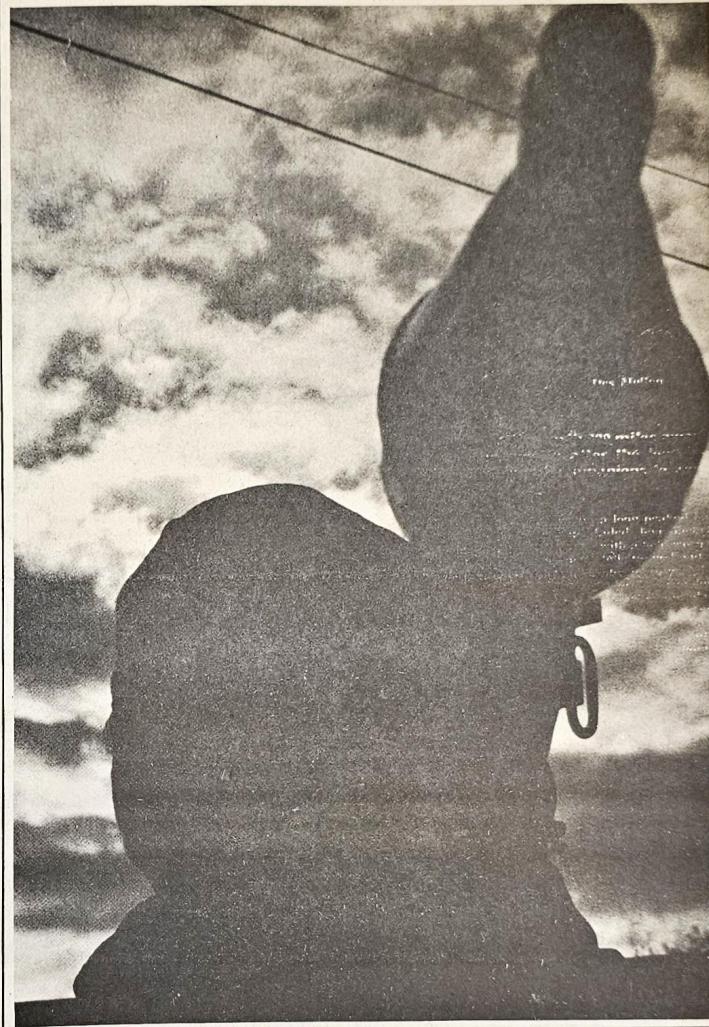
This is why, in 1969, many an Irish citizen expected the "Free" State army to move into the North to protect the nationalist areas.

But, of course, they stood idly by, for such was their duty, to remain the passive witnesses of the slaughter, effectively helping British rule to be reinforced. Now, when the British military machine is in difficulty, they have shown their true role by giving a helpful hand along the Border against the freedom fighters.

The present Dublin recruiting campaign aims at strengthening the forces overstretched by the border operations. Also, it is necessary for the Dublin administration to see that no important movement can challenge the state when its forces are concentrating on collaborating with the Brits to cut off withdrawal for units of Oglaithe na hÉireann, whether it be a Civil Rights movement against repression, a general strike or mobilisations against the Wage Pact.

An increasing change in the role of the Dublin army has been shown by some obvious signs: last year at the Curragh

Ar lean, ar chúl



Oglach Éireannach ag fanacht ar an bhfaill le buille a bhualadh ar son na saorise. Next week we will publish a sensational series of pictures from the Belfast Bogside area. Order your copy now: demand will be heavy.

## RUMOUR SCOTCHED

By our Political Correspondent

A PECULIAR rumour was circulating in Belfast last weekend and so widespread as to suggest that it might have been circulated by the enemy: Sinn Féin cumann members were not to discuss the Boal plan for an amalgamated Ireland!

It seemed odd to me — too odd to be true. For if anything needs to be discussed widely by Republicans at present it is this particular plan. I checked with Seán Ó Brádaigh, Sinn Féin's publicity Officer and a member of the Ardchomhairle, to see if any direction even remotely resembling this had been made by the Ardchomhairle. "No," he said.

Could it be that a directive was issued asking Sinn Féin cumann in the North (and elsewhere) to discuss the Boal plan, to send the cumann consensus to headquarters for processing, but not to issue any press statements? No directive of any kind had been issued.

Commonsense, however, would seem to indicate that all levels of Sinn Féin and that headquarters were told of the results. It would appear to be untrue for individual cumann on the subject without checking at a higher level first.

Army statements, of course, are issued through the Irish Republican Publicity Bureau.

## An Phoblacht

JOE Cahill, the veteran Belfast Republican, is very ill in a Dublin hospital. It could be argued, with some bitterness, perhaps, that his present condition is a direct result of his imprisonment. But such recriminations will not help the man or assist in loosening his shackles.

The only possible approach, within reason and with any hope of success, is that of mercy. The man may have very few days, months, years, left. In mercy, let him spend what remains outside prison and, if it has to be in hospital, without the prison stretching its keys, its locks, its walls, barbed wire, officials, into the ward where he rests.

Does anybody want Joe Cahill to die in prison except the fool and the hard-hearted enemy consumed by a spirit of revenge because of Cahill's lonely stand in 1969 against the mob invaders of the Falls and his part in building the people's army?

# R.U.C. TERRORISM

## Condemned by Young, Scarman, Cameron

WE in the Sinn Féin Ulster Executive, see, as the first sign of realism, the decision of the Attorney-General to treat as "terrorists", a member of the R.U.C. Special Branch for alleged offences, according to a statement received.

The Police Federation's disapproval is seen as leaning towards another conspiracy of silence manifested throughout the R.U.C. and brought to light during the Scarman Tribunal.

For Mr. Stannage to state that, by bringing a member of the R.U.C. to a Court, it would be a slight on the integrity of the R.U.C., is ludicrous.

Bearing in mind that the R.U.C. long since has lost its integrity due to its completely partisan approach to the present situation, as observed by Lord Scarman, Lord Cameron, Sir Arthur Young and Lord Gardiner, all of whom made statements about the conduct of the R.U.C.

### Appeal unheeded

Sir Arthur Young appealed: "I appeal to the police to hand up the guilty men in their ranks". The appeal went unheeded by the R.U.C.

Lord Scarman commented: "There was a breakdown of police discipline ... a number of policemen were guilty of misconduct which involved assault and battery, malicious damage to property and the use of provocative sectarian and political slogans".

To the Special Branch, Mr. Stannage, chairman of the Police Federation should dwell on Lord Gardiner's report regarding torture and brutality in the North, accepted by the British Premier, Mr. Heath on Aug. 8, 1970.

In this report it is stated that "the Special Branch men were involved in torture and brutality".

It also states: "The procedures were and are illegal... they are illegal by the law in Northern Ireland, and the Kingdom".

Bearing all this in mind, the Police Federation, therefore, should not appear so "aghast" at the decision of the Attorney-General to treat as "terrorist" members of the force allegedly involved in offences.

### In name of law

The Police Federation and, indeed, to all who claim to be "forces of law and order", should bear the following in mind, the statement continues: "When those who make the law break the law in the name of the law there is no law".

The Ulster Executive hopes that every person, whether member of the Crown Forces or ordinary individuals, will get a fair trial.

As regards Mr. Stannage's apparent dislike of the Diplock Commission rules being used in a Court, the Executive hopes that he and his colleagues will strive for its immediate removal, along with all the other repressive laws of the Six Counties".



### Connacht greets Boal plan

Connacht has welcomed the recent proposal of Mr. Desmond Boal for a federal government in a united, independent Ireland as a solution to the Northern problem.

The statement continues: "As this proposal is the nearest in line to that advocated by the four Principals, we in Connacht Connacht hope that it will receive the earnest consideration it deserves from the Irish people, North and South, as belief it contains within it seeds of a just and lasting peace for the whole people of Ireland".

## Cosgrave insults Derry's dead

THE IRISH Civil Rights Association held its second annual commemoration of Derry's "Bloody Sunday" in Dublin with a march from the burned-out shell of the British Embassy, Merrion Square, to the G.P.O., where 14 wreaths were laid.

These wreaths were supplied by the American Branch of An Cumann Caborach.

Unfortunately, the wreaths could not be laid in the Garden of Remembrance, as planned, because the head of the 26 Counties administration, Mr. Liam Cosgrave, refused to allow the Tricolour in the Garden to be lowered to half-mast.

Mr. Cosgrave suggested that all those who died for Ireland could be commemorated.

Before the wreath-laying ceremony, the meeting was addressed by Captain James Kelly, chairman, Civil Rights

Association. He explained the significance of the ceremony and the reason why it was being held at the G.P.O., instead of at the Garden of Remembrance.

After Captain Kelly's address some stanzas from Thomas Kinsella's poem, "Butcher's Dozen", were read by Caroline Bean, Michael O'Brien, the priest for the dead were recited by Rev. Columba Kelly, Belfast, and by Greek Orthodox Bishop Bartholomew from the United States, an Irish-American, who called for the transfer of the Price sisters and their comrades to Ireland, and the rejection of the Downingdale Agreement.

The meeting ended with two minutes silence in memory of the dead of "Bloody Sunday".

• Left: The actress, Caroline Bean, Michael O'Brien, Rev. Price, father of the Price sisters, lead the wreath-laying ceremony. Albert Price is standing in the British imperial election as an Independent Republican in the West Belfast constituency.



# Common Market bubble bursts

SINN FEIN takes no pleasure in the fact that full membership of the Common Market, which Republicans so strenuously opposed, has brought widespread economic hardship to large sections of the Irish people, north and south, according to a statement.

Now the Republican Movement believes it would be easier in its duties not to forearm the Irish people, once again, that worse is yet to come unless public opinion forces the Dublin government to face up to the consequences of its tragic error in believing that, by committing the state to full membership in this second Act of Union, it could wipe the slate clear of past economic blunders with bags of Deutschmarks and Francs.

The collapse of the price of beef during the first year of membership has brought home to the farming community in a most cruel manner, the perfidy of the Brussels and Dublin financed pro-market campaign.

Instead of the "bonanza" promised, the beef trade is faced with its worst depression in the history of the industry. Some 1.5 million cattle in the country, the average drop in price of £5 per beast, which took place during 1973, means there has been a massive loss of £350,000,000.

Such a disaster is unequalled even during the worst years of the economic war of the hungry thirties. Yet, the kept press and state-owned RTE continue to bleat out the "you-never-had-it-so-good" message. Farmers who have been facing increased costs estimated in 1973 to be £46,000,000, and who have been taxed up to £156 on a ton on beef exports to countries in the EEC and the EEC itself, these farmers know better, as they struggle with soaring bank interest rates through a winter of discontent.

Should the EEC intervention price for beef collapse, as now appears likely, the Irish farmer may be faced with the prospect of having to feed his dearly bought and肥 cattle at panic prices. Further, the recent and sudden decision of the French Farmers' block threatens the very existence of the Common Agricultural Policy, the one benefit that Irish farmers were led to believe would solve all their problems.

The Irish farmer has seen very little evidence of the stable of Martin McGuinness, Sinn Féin's chairman, Belfast, when he issued this statement: "The arrest of Martin McGuinness is clearly a politically motivated act by the Dublin government designed to shore up the toppling Brian Faulkner faction which is now facing the electorate in a crucial test.

On the other hand this latest act of shameful collaboration can scarcely endear the S.D.L.P. to the people of the former Free Derry area, seeing that the new Stormont Executive and the new Stormont Executive and the Dublin Government now work hand-in-hand.

"It will be interesting to observe if the opinion of a police superintendent will be invoked for the second time within a year to send Martin McGuinness to prison in the 26 Counties", the statement concludes.

### Laughed out

BRITISH army thugs conducted a raid on the Derry City Club at Bishop Street. When these desperadoes appeared at the lounge entrance, they made a noise so loud, so shrill, so of "Help, we're making it thru' the night" and swung their full blast into "The Boys of the Old Brigade".

The entire attendance in the lounge created impromptu stages with tables and chairs and gave the song such an effect that the band was practically inaudible. The poor unemployed mates of the empire crawled out after 20 hot Irish minutes, without taking prisoners and minus quite a few skull caps.

Ar lean, ar chul!

The consumer, the urban housewife, and the trade unionist have fared no better than the farmer. Food prices, which the Fine Gael, Fianna Fail and tory elements of the Labour Party assured their constituents would not rise more than one penny in the pound, rose 14 pence in the pound as one price rise after the other was sanctioned by the self-proclaimed "revolutionary-marxist" Minister for Industry and Commerce, Justin Keating.

The traders, who were promised £5,000 new jobs in industry, are now being told that, in order to maintain their own, they must ratify a National Wage Agreement which fails in most cases to keep their incomes abreast of rising prices and will, in fact, have the effect of lowering their standards of living, still further.

Plans for a meaningful Regional Aid Fund, from which the Twenty-Six Counties was to be a major beneficiary, are now so dog-eared it is unlikely they will ever see the light of day.

The proposals being considered are pathetic in their impotence, so pathetic that even pro-Market forces are calling for an Irish veto if they are not substantially altered to give the under-developed peripheral regions a sufficient transfer of funds to offset the flow of capital to the central industrialised areas.

OVER the past few weeks I have been tracing the history of that Westminster plan to rule Ireland through a puppet administration by means of a trick called "home-rule".

We have seen how the Nationalists were weaned away by the Brits from whatever wholesome ideas of Irish independence some of them may have had to adopt the role of quislings, just like the S.D.L.P. today, and a national convention of all Republican and separatist organisations.

Last week I got as far as the resignation of Arthur Griffith from Sinn Féin and his replacement by Eamonn de Valera, as president; and the calling by Count Plunket of a national convention of all Republican and separatist organisations.

This was a direct challenge to David Lloyd-George, the Westminster premier. What steps would he take to try to outflank the Republicans?

#### Partition agreed

Lloyd George now set up what he called an "Irish National Convention" to work out a scheme for the "better government of Ireland". He invited all parties to this, including Sinn Féin; but only the Irish party and the Unionist party attended. Sinn Féin ignored the convention, giving as the reasons that Irish independence was not on the agenda.

The convention collapsed after agreeing to proposals for the partition of Ireland into two states. These proposals were worked out eventually in the Government of Ireland Act 1920, and subsequently written into the Anglo-Irish "Treaty" of 1921.

By that time, however, Sinn Féin had won the 1918 election, Dáil Eireann Government for all Ireland had been established, the War of Independence had been fought and the occupation forces forced to sign a truce with the Army of the Republic (Oglach na hEireann).

Most of us readers know the subsequent history of how the "Treaty" was forced upon the Irish people under the threat of "immediate and terrible war" and of the bloody civil war (war in defence of the Republic) which followed in the wake of that treaty of surrender.

There is one point, however, I wish to raise here. Although Arthur Griffith was prepared to accept dominion status for a 32-counties Ireland, he never, at any time, contemplated partition. He was cajoled into signing the Treaty by the inclusion in that document of a clause which made provision for the setting up of what was called a "Boundary Commission" to determine the wishes of the population in certain nationalist areas such as Tyrone and Fermanagh, Derry city and South Armagh.

Lloyd George assured Griffith that the Boundary Commission, when it met, would cede such a large area of territory to the Southern state that what would be left would not be a viable political entity for the Unionists, and, as a result, full national unity would be inevitable, with British consent and support.

Both Griffith and Collins fell for the British lie, hook, line and sinker. They were in their graves when the Boundary Commission did meet in 1925 and its report, instead of recommending the transfer of territory to the southern state, actually recommended the transfer of parts of Donegal, Cavan and Monaghan to the northern statelet.

The Free State representative on the Boundary Commission, Professor Eoin Mac Néill, resigned in disgust, but the government of which he was a member actually accepted the Commission's report and because Britain agreed to let the Free State off any further payment of the Imperial national debt, William Cosgrave, the head of the government, and his Minister for Finance, Ernest Blythe, described the new arrangement (which meant Partition and occupation) as "a damn good bargain".

#### Final freedom struggle

From that day to our own, the two partitioned states set up by England in this country have continued to function and flourish until the present phase of the War of Independence began with the Civil Rights agitation in 1968.

## Republicans fight to retain hospital

ARDKEEN Hospital, Waterford, was built as a TB hospital in 1950. In the sixties, when the disease was on the wane, Ardkeen became a general hospital, leaving one unit, St. Joseph's, for the treatment of TB.

There was no paediatric unit and recently, when a local child died from gastroenteritis, pressure was put on the authorities to provide such a unit.

As a result, it was decided to convert St. Joseph's TB unit into



## Lloyd-George plans partition

Within the last five years the Volunteer soldiers of Oglach na hEireann have succeeded in destroying the political, financial and economic structure of the Northern state to such an extent that the British were forced to close down the Stormont parliament and to look for a substitute or alternative.

This substitute was the Boundary Sunningdale with the help of treacherous politicians from the 26 Counties government and from the so-called socialists and nationalists of the S.D.L.P. You will note that the recipé is as it was in 1910. The new Northern Executive is appointed by the British Government and holds office by virtue of its allegiance to the British Crown.

In the Sunningdale Agreement is written the same bogus British guarantee that was given to Collins and Griffith in 1921, when the Boundary Clause was inserted in the Treaty of Surrender.

We are told that Britain will support Irish national unity when a majority in the occupied area agrees with it. You may be quite sure that every effort will be made through propaganda and official inducement, that such agreement will never take place.

I ask you to remember that, on the very night on which Lloyd-George was telling Collins and Griffith that the Boundary Clause would bring Irish unity, he had sent a courier to Belfast with a letter to the then Unionist leader, Sir James Craig (afterwards Lord Craigavon). In that letter he wrote these words: "Ulster must not, whether she likes it or not, merge with the rest of Ireland".

I would ask you to take note of the words, "whether she likes it or not", for they contain the fundamentals of British policy in Ireland. This is, always has been, and always will be, to "divide and dominate".

#### New British gimmick

So that we have not progressed one step beyond 1910 as far as British imperialism is concerned, Sunningdale is the new British gimmick to hold Ireland in subjection and to maintain in our island home the imperialistic, capitalist system of society.

For that reason, no plan for the future good government of Ireland, whether it comes from Sinn Féin, the Provisional I.R.A., or Unionist leaders, such as Desmond Boal and the late Tommy Heron, will be considered. Under such a plan or plans British ownership is rejected and Irishmen would sit down together to work out the future of our common land.

Peace and his comrades rejected British duplicity in 1916. The people of all Ireland rejected it in 1918. The Republican Movement rejects it today and all Ireland will reject it again tomorrow.

Sunningdale cannot work in Ireland for the simple reason that it is a British conception and like the 1910 Home Rule Act, a British gimmick by which it is hoped to continue British ownership in Ireland.

The recipé is as before, only this time there are new cooks who have decided to work out their own recipé which will result in freedom, peace and independence for all our people, Orange and Green, Saxon, Norman and Gael.

**CORMAC MAC AIRT**

a paediatric unit, reports the Cathal Brugha Cumann, Sinn Féin, Waterford.

The scheduled closing of the TB unit is the latest in a series of blows struck against the people of the south-east in general and Waterford, in particular.

This areas has one of the highest rates of unemployment in the country as a result of decisions and lack of decisions by the faceless bureaucrats in Dublin.

Are they now going to remove a basic right of a suffering minority - the TB patients - by closing their local treatment unit?

In this latest "rationalisation" scheme, the authorities have come up against an unexpected stone wall in the form of the Action Committee formed by the patients themselves in St. Joseph's unit.

Ar lean, ar chúl Ich.



## Freedom Fighter, 1974

This is the title of this poster, published by the Belfast Republican Press Centre, 182, Brompton Park, Belfast.

## TWENTY NEW CUMAINN ÁRD FHEIS

PERHAPS the most significant internal development in Sinn Féin since the Ardfeis is the number of new cumainn formed. During November, December and January more than 20 new cumainn have been formed and some lapsed cumainn re-organised.

In Derry city, the Kevin Barry has a new cumainn, secretary is Patrick Harkin, 26 Upper Nassau Street, Rosmount, Derry. This brings the number of cumainn in the city to 10 and leaves it in a very well organised state.

The Francis Hall - Ann Petticrew Cumainn, formed in Andersonstown, Belfast, consists of young people between the ages of 17 and 21. The chairman is Paul Wilson and the secretary, Ciarán Mackle, Owenvaragh Park.

Loinsigh, formed three cumainn in Rathkeale, Co. Limerick, early in December. Secretaries are: Rathkeale, Michael Kelly, Crough; Askerton, Michael Ryan, Bán Riabhaigh; Ballyhahill, Donnachadh Ó Nualláin, Lios Riada.

Mayo has a new cumainn, Ballina, secretary is Jackie Clark. A new cumainn also has been formed in Roscommon in Killucan, secretary is Frank O'Donoghue. Officers are: chairman, Kieran Flanagan; vice-chairman, Tom Joe Flanagan; secretary, Jim Cavanagh; joint

# Fantastic expansion of Derry Sinn Féin

DERRY CITY is now very well organised, with 10 cumainn. This is an immense improvement on the situation prior to 1971 when only one cumann existed. The people of Derry always had and always will have the desire for Republicanism and freedom, but they have been a downtrodden people and for a long time looked to the south and the unfulfilled promises, for some help or encouragement.

In recent years the shackles have been shaken off and Derry is willing to stand on its own legs. This has been proven. In the heart of the Bogside the Wolfe Tone Cumann operates. It has 28 members. It sells 1,000 papers per week.

Papers sold are: "An Phoblacht", "The Volunteer" and the local news-sheet, "The Croppy".

A door-to-door canvas has been carried out and a petition signed to encourage people to maintain the Rents and Rates Strike.

The S.D.L.P. offices have been picketed in protest against forced-feeding. In fact, if there is a protest, a picket or any other activity in Derry City, the Wolfe Tone Cumann members are always to the fore.

The cumann secretary is: Miss Bernadette Harkin, 9, Elmwood Road, Derry.

WATERFORD city is not noted for its Republicanism. It was long regarded as a Redmondite stronghold but, if the actions of the Cathal Brugha Cumann are indication of what the future holds for Urbs Intacta, there are bright prospects ahead for the Republican Movement in the area.

Sometime last year Uachtarán Sinn Féin Ruairí Ó Brádaigh and U. Ó Loingsigh, visited the city to help get it organised and left with a feeling of confidence.

That confidence was not misplaced. Since that date in September members of An Ard-Chomhairle, two, have gone to Waterford to speak at public meetings and the cumann has carried on a campaign of organising, pickets and protests.

These have included pickets on the homes of Mr. Edward Collins, Fine Gael T.D., and Mr. William Kinnelly, Fianna Fáil T.D., protesting in support of the Winchester eight.

A Fine Gael dinner dance in the Tower Hotel was was

## Nuacht na gCumann

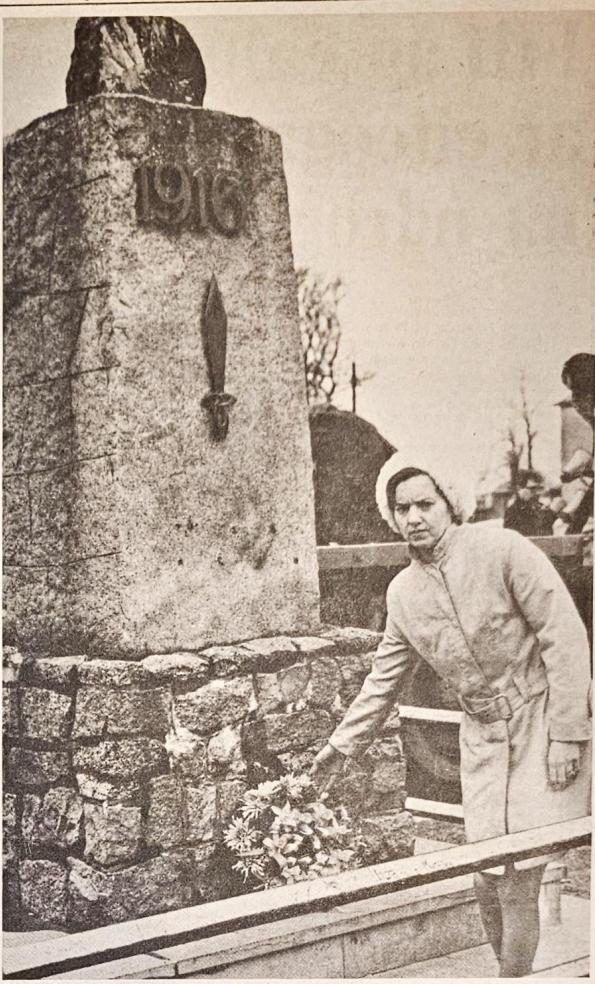
picketed. Five thousand leaflets have been distributed locally.

The cumann sells 25 dozen copies of "An Phoblacht" every week and has made some good contacts for An Cumann Cathach. Although the membership is small the hard work being done will bear fruit.

The chairman of the Cumann is Martin Morrissey and the secretary is Mrs. Margaret Merriman, 68 Ballytruckle, Waterford. The cumann at present works in conjunction with the Kilkenny Comhairlecheantair.

Deascháil ó Rinn O gCumann Co. Phobr Láirge, chugainn: Deindeadh atheagrú ar an gCumann ann um Nollaig. Tháinig an cumann daonar agus eiseara. Tionóladh Béal díshá i ndún Gharbháin ar son An Chumann Chathairbhrigh, agus baillóidh €120. Tá an feachtas poiblachtach chun seasamh le muiní an Claudia ar síúl i gCónai. Tá na hoscailte seo a leanas tofa: Cathaoirleach; Tomás O Ceallaigh; Rúnai; Tomás O Faoleáin; cisteoir; Padraig O hArtá. Ni labhartha dada ach Gaeilge sa chumann.

THE following officers were elected at the annual meeting of the Roscommon Comhairlecheantair: chairman: L. Noone; vice-chairman: P. Cryan; secretary: T. Geraghty; treasurer: D. Mullooly; organiser: K. King.



and P.R.O., H. Mac Eoin.

The Comhairlecheantair condemned the "Free" state forces for the raid on the home of Tom McDermott, Mount Talbot. The home was left in a shambles.

A LARGE Mayo contingent attended the "Bloody Sunday" Commemoration in Derry, among them Sinn Féin members of

These Belfast children were entertained at Christmas in Republica, a centre in Tuar area, under the auspices of the Tuar Northern Holdings Committee, formed in September 1972. Since then, 400 children have benefited. All are close relations of internees, detainees or sentenced prisoners.

Máire Bean Uí Ghormáin lays a wreath at the 1916 memorial in Tuama, Co. na Gaillimh, in memory of the 14 murdered by the Paras in Derry on "Bloody Sunday". A meeting afterwards was addressed by Councillor Frank Glynn and Caoimhín Mac Cathmhaoil, who called for the return of the political prisoners to Ireland.

Cumann in Castlebar, Claremorris, Newport and Kiltimagh.

THE Loughman Brothers Cumann Dinníagh, Dublin, at its annual meeting, elected the following officer board: chairman: Joe Meehan; vice-chairman: Séan Judge; secretary: Séan Connolly; Ass:

Sec., Tom Harkin; treasurer: Mrs. G. Sheehy; and asst. treas: Séan Sheehy.

Galway: Uachtarán Sinn Féin, Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, Máirí Moore and Malachy Footes addressed a meeting in Ballinasloe. This was the first such meeting in this area for a long time.

Protests have been organised by Sinn Féin in many other centres, especially in Belfast and Derry.

We believe the hard work being done by the more active will stimulate others to follow suit.

Send your Cumann news to Nuacht na gCumann, Sinn Féin, Sráid Chaoimhín, B.A.C.



## AINN SINCE

treasurers, John Walsh and Joe Kelly. Delegates to Comhairlecheantair: Joe Kelly and T.J. Flanagan.

Other cumainn have been formed in: Golden Co. Tipperary; Carrickmacross Co. Louth; Derry; Armagh, Birmingham, Glasgow, Durrow, Co. Laois and in Clare and Kerry. Details will appear in a future issue.

### No to collaboration

A HOPE that resolute action would be taken by a corporate student body over the question of military - sponsored research in Queen's University, Belfast, is expressed by the Students' Representative Council.



# Harassment of the Irish in Britain

ON Tuesday evening (February 12) plainclothes detectives, armed, and using electrical equipment, raided homes in Luton and Hemel Hempstead. In every case search warrants were produced.

The police claimed they were looking "for explosives". The victims in question are members of Sinn Féin, Anti-Internment League, International Socialists, Irish Association and others not members of any political organisations other than Church groups and charity organisations.

In every case personal correspondence, letters of all descriptions, books were read, and piled in bundles on the floor.

Bedrooms, blankets and underclothes were searched with the detectors. Notes were taken down from personal letters and other correspondence. The families in question were each raided by seven and eight plainclothes policemen, and as well as their homes their belongings being searched, their cars and garages also were ransacked.

In Luton, the man in question was out that evening attending a political meeting (addressed by Harold Wilson) when the seven policemen arrived.

His door was forced open and his room was taken almost apart in his absence. He returned home

## a chara

Later that evening to find his room a shambles and his dog dead. The police had left at this time.

Because of the condition his room was left in he still does not know if any items were removed and taken away by the police.

In another part of the house – which is set out in flats – the police broke open a tool box, the property of a young English technician, and also searched his room in his absence.

Other occupants in the house were questioned by the police about the man whose room was broken into, what were his political affiliations, the times he came and went, etc. They stayed for about two hours.

Another house in Luton was also searched. This time it was the home of a Sinn Féin member. His house was entered also by about eight policemen and the search carried on while he and his wife and their family were kept in a room down the stairs.

In Hemel Hempstead, (nine miles away) at exactly the same time plain clothes police raided the homes of known Sinn Féin members, buyers of "An Phoblacht", Anti-Internment League members, and I.S. members.

In one case the home of an Irish family who do not belong to any political organisation was entered and searched by seven policemen. This house is occupied by an elderly couple whose two sons-legal and illegal members of the British commandos stationed in England, (one is a flight lieutenant and the other a captain).

All their correspondence was read, and they were questioned about a (used) battery found in the dust bin. This had been, in fact, in a tape recorder owned by the couple. They can offer no explanation as to why their home was raided, other than the man in question recently wrote to his M.P. to complain about the ill-treatment of the Price sisters and the other hunger-strikers in Brixton.

He also gave clothing (used) during 1973 to collectors in the area for the Long Kesh internees and their families.

His wife is a semi-invalid, and is now terrified to open the door to a knock. He intends taking the matter up with his M.P. and to ask the National Council for Civil Liberties to inquire fully into the matter.

Again in Hemel Hempstead another member of Sinn Féin was raided. Police arrived at 6.30 pm the evening. The man was not home. He told the police to wait to let him get back into the kitchen.

There they produced their search warrant and the man explained he was on his way to the railway to pick up his wife. He was told he could not leave the house, and could not make a phone call – in other words, as he put it himself, he was "under house arrest".

He protested to the police about his obvious intimidation and harassment. He was put under "close observation" for the two hours the police were in his home and could not go from one room



The day the R.U.C. revolted: soldiers take over from police in Belfast. The R.U.C. objected to a member being tried as a terrorist. The R.U.C., as everyone knows, is far below the law and far above it. Will Stormont and Westminster surrender once again to the unionists?

Cumann members have been running dances locally which are more than well attended, and all these activities have not gone unnoticed by the local authorities and police.

– Michael Holden, Rúnaí, Patrick McArdle, Cumann, Sinn Féin, Luton, Sasana.

## BAN ON PARADES?

FOLLOWING the M62 bomb attack a big campaign is under way in the Manchester area, started by the local press to have the Manchester Martyrs and Easter Week commemorations held on Saturday, November 10, and on Easter Sunday banned.

It is our hope for this Easter Sunday that we will get support from the Republican Movement in Ireland, as well as the London, Birmingham and other areas of Britain.

We want to continue with these commemorations, so we await your support.

– J. Moran, Manchain, Sasana.

to another without being watched.

He was questioned about politics, about the coal miners' strike, and about the operation of the "minerals plan" and about a leaflet issued by Sinn Féin asking the electorate to withdraw their support from the Conservative candidates in the area, and cast their vote for the candidates who are known to be sympathetic to the withdrawal of British troops from Ireland, and giving practical support to the Irish Republican prisoners in Britain.

One of these leaflets was taken away by the policemen. This man was further questioned, and he was taken away by the police to a police station.

The searches in these areas went on until about 10 o'clock. Luton Sinn Féin believe their recent activities in the political field precipitated these raids. Since the beginning of the year, their cumann has been gaining new members and the sale of the Republican papers has gone up by over one hundred.

London Sinn Féin believe their recent activities in the political field precipitated these raids. Since the beginning of the year, their cumann has been gaining new members and the sale of the Republican papers has gone up by over one hundred.

The cumann members organised a campaign to get Irish people in the area to write to their M.P.s, complaining about the ill-treatment of the Price sisters, and got the Irish community continually to telephone the governor of the prison enquiring about their condition.

The Parliamentary candidates were lobbied and interviewed personally by cumann committee members. Their views were on the Six Counties problem and what their attitude would be in the event of a change of government.

The parliamentary candidates spoken to said they were in favour of a united Ireland and one asked to send Republican literature to his home.

## Scotland.

It has area councils only and it is very difficult as to the powers they will have.

President Allende failed because he had not a parliamentary majority among other things. Also, when he was elected he was backed by a coalition of various groups.

– Constant reader, Liberties, Baile Átha Cliath.

## FAMILY VISITS

WE wish to draw attention to the fact that brothers and sisters who are serving long terms of imprisonment have been refused visits to each other by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

While appreciating the fact that married and engaged couples have recently been granted 4 visits a year, which we feel to be inadequate, we fail to see why brothers and sisters are also not entitled to visits.

Surely this would not involve a large scale security operation as detainees from Armagh Prison are frequently brought to the Commission which are held in the Maze.

We feel that this is inhuman to say the least. We are not asking any concessions but our rights.

We would ask the public to send petitions to the Ministry and give us their support in this matter.

– Geraldine Larkin, Rosemary Simpson, Susan Loughran, (Republican Prisoners, Armagh Prison).

## LEAS

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At leas na Gaeilge

At leas na Poblacht

At do leas fén

£2 ..... 12 eagrán

£1 ..... Sé eagrán

Tuilleadh eolais ó Dhomhnall Ó Lubhlai, 250 Cuarbhóthar Theas, Baile Átha Cliath, 8.

Ara foliú ag Gluaiseacht na Poblacht.

## CÉIRNÍN NUA

A new record, "Flight from Mountjoy" with "Billy Reed" on flip-side by the Freemen from Mountjoy. Written by a prisoner who was in Mountjoy at the time: Séan McGinley from Armagh. Profits will go to Éire Nua.

## GARDEN

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## VISIT A PRISONER

TA na cíim i bpriosún Phortlaoise ag glacadh le cuairteanna athaúair ná tá na húdarás tar éis gileáilteach díobh sa chuid is mó dá ngearán.

• For people in Baile Átha Cliath, a bus leaves the office of this newspaper every Saturday morning at 11.30, arriving back in the capital at about 6 p.m.

• Travel is free to all relatives of the prisoners to whom a visit brings a joy difficult to describe. It is essential to maintain their morale, by visits, by gifts, by letters, papers, books, musical instruments, records and similar material.

• Don't let the political hostages down. Bígí dílis. Bígí fíal flaitheáil daonna.



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