

An Phoblacht

Iml. 7. Uimhir 47. 8p. Samhain 23, 1976.

It shall be the duty of the government of this Republic to make provision for the physical, mental and well being of the children, to secure that no child shall suffer hunger or cold from lack of food, clothing, or shelter, but that all shall be provided with the means and facilities requisite for their proper education and training as citizens of a free and Gaelic Ireland. (1st Dail Eireann)

Release Orange paramilitaries from political strait jacket

DOES DUBLIN WANT LASTING PEACE?

HOW INSTRUCTIVE to observe how closely the views of spokesmen for the extreme right wings of the British Conservative Party and the Irish Labour Party coincide in reaction to the growing demand, at home and abroad, for Britain to quit Ireland for good.

Mr. Airie Neave, in Cardiff on Saturday, November 20, said that as soon as Britain set a date for withdrawing her troops, "Catholic and Protestant extremists" would prepare for a bloodbath and the "ground would be cut from under the feet of all those working for peace".

In Limerick, during the Labour Party annual conference, Dr. Conor Cruise O'Brien stated that such a decision would be the "opening of the door that leads out to full-scale civil war on this island, to death and destruction on the scale of Lebanon".

In 1921, Lloyd-George warned that, if his "Treaty" were not accepted, "terrible war" by the Crown would be unleashed on Ireland. A war did follow, between those who attempted to defend the Republic and those who backed Lloyd-George, while equipped and armed by him, to the considerable economy of Crown lives, as an M.P. told Westminster so smugly at the time. And for more than 50 years Ireland remained a concentration camp until the north-east could take it no longer and erupted.

In his Cardiff speech, Mr. Airie Neave stated: "The partition of Ireland is the result of disagreements between Irishmen".

The facts are that, as we get tired of pointing out, in the British imperial general election throughout Ireland in 1918, more than 70 per cent of the seats were won by Sinn Féin candidates pledged to the independent Irish Republic of all-Ireland proclaimed in the Dublin General Post Office in 1916.

IRISH AGREED

It was not a case of "Irishmen disagreeing" but, rather, of representatives of the vast majority of the Irish people agreeing to Irish unity and independence, with the agreement of the vast majority of the Irish people behind them.

The further facts are that the Crown choose to ignore this democratically expressed wish of the Irish people and forced through its Act for the Better Government of Ireland, partitioning Ireland against the wish even of the Orange faction.

Later, that Orange faction accepted what the Crown ordained but Orange leaders of the time are on record as having protested against partition.

Mr. Airie Neave is either a very ignorant person or a liar. Much the same may be said of Dr. Cruise O'Brien in Limerick in that he said that the inevitability of the "full-scale civil war" was realised by the "Provos" (possibly he meant Sinn Féin) in "demanding the commitment to withdrawal and that was what they wanted" (we quote a daily newspaper of last Monday).

Dr. Cruise O'Brien was not quite so airy-fairy as his fellow conspirator in Cardiff of the previous day for he prefaced his dire

forecast by discussing the declaration of intent to withdraw in the context of the "Absence of tested and stable agreement for British withdrawal between the elected representatives of both communities in the North" (same newspaper source).

He did not refer to the Irish decision of 1918. He did not acknowledge the democratic right of the Irish people to make that decision. He did not condemn the Crown for its contempt of that decision and its armed - violent - attempts to prevent it from being expressed peacefully, through the foundation of Dail Eireann by the elected T.D.s.

TREATY HAS FAILED

Neither did Dr. Cruise O'Brien refer to the coercion used in both parts of the sundered island to prevent any attempt at a free, democratic, Irish decision; nor to the terrible persecution of the Irish-orientated people for more than 50 years within the Six Counties. Nor did he admit that "Treaty" politics - the Crown solution - had failed in both the Six and the Twenty-Six Counties. He did admit, however, that the "Provos" were an "All-Ireland Body".

When he referred to "tested and stable agreement" he did not refer to the failure of every Crown attempt to get the local consensus he demands over the past six years, whether by the Crown alone, or by the Crown dictating a minor role, such as at Sunningdale, to Dublin. Nor did he point out that not only was there failure every time but that the situation has got worse and worse.

If Cruise O'Brien was aware of all the facts, or an honourable person, or both, he would be forced to admit that the Crown has proved it cannot administer the Six Counties any longer and that its presence is making a bad situation worse.

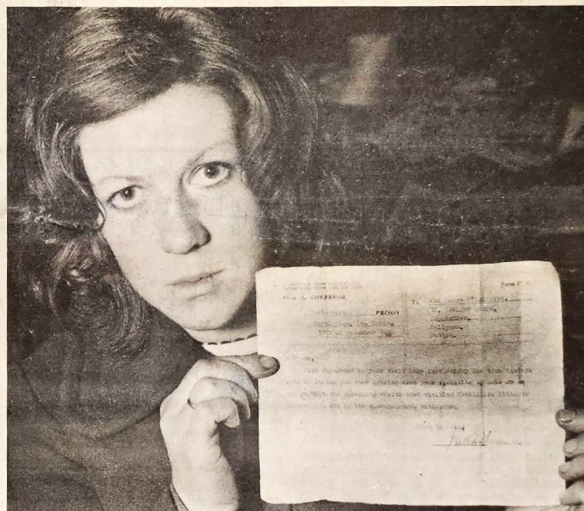
He would have to admit, too, that the area so carefully cut off from the rest of the country was designed not to achieve the consensus he demands but, rather, to ensure a continuing conflict; and also, that it is within this context that the civil-war danger exists, with the Crown, for its own sinister purposes, through propaganda and "sectarian" assassinations, keeping the pot of hate boiling.

REPUBLICAN DEMAND

Neither Neave nor Cruise O'Brien even mentioned the full demand of the Republican Movement, that the Crown should not only make public its declaration of intent but also arranged for a phased, orderly withdrawal, to provide every possible and reasonable opportunity for representatives of the various communities to understand the new political situation and respond to it in the normal political manner.

Everything else has been tried and has failed. Today, a sizeable group of "loyalist" paramilitary groups have made it clear that they realise this.

At present, Dublin, rather than London, is standing in their way in the dialogue they seek because status-quo Dublin will not make



Maire Sullivan, the mother of three young children is married to Eamon Sullivan, presently serving a 7 year sentence in Port Laoise Jail.

Last week she received a communication from Port Laoise Jail informing her that she was banned from the jail (story page 8).

the only understandable gesture needed to assuage their fears, real or otherwise, of being eliminated in post-withdrawal Ireland.

TALK NOW

Sinn Féin has made its gesture long ago, offering, to all reasonable intents, an independent Ulster but within the historic area of the entire province, all nine counties of it.

In that area, "Loyalists" might be in a majority and, if they so wished, could rule as a majority, being given every freedom except the freedom to discriminate. They would have far more real power under Federal Ireland than ever they had under the Crown, even in the heydays of Stormont (provided they do not break up into left and right policies) which Sinn Féin would welcome.

If status-quo Dublin were interested in permanent peace, based on justice, in the north-east as well as the rest of the country, the historic, vital gesture it could make at this stage would be, at minimum, to tell those concerned that it could not stand in the way of discussions with the people of counties Monaghan, Cavan and Donegal, and the representatives of the "loyalists" - and those of other groups and parties - to participate in a conference.

The paramilitaries of the "loyalists" are in a political strait jacket at the moment. If they are interested genuinely in a solution which has not been tried before they are confined by the politics of both the Crown and its subsidiary, Dublin, to talking only in

terms of "independence" and within the Six Counties area.

BACK OR FORWARD?

Sinn Féin is willing to help them out of that strait jacket. But not the Crown. Not Dublin. The talking must begin some time. Why not now?

At this moment, the details are not important. The objective should be to have agreement on an independent, sovereign, federal Ireland with the maximum of safeguards for minorities, particularly the "Loyalist" minority.

As always, the Republican Movement is working for a just and lasting peace. What we are urging here is nothing new in principle but merely a principled, political response to what would appear to be a new political factor.

Given goodwill all around, the Republican Movement will be found to be generous, helpful, reasonable, democratic and just, firm in its pledge to stand by the democratic will of the entire Irish people expressed freely in the ballot box.

Here is a way to get a full consensus of the entire Irish people and to force the orderly and phased withdrawal of the Crown forces with as many of the guarantees that some people would seem to demand being built in - an Irish decision, not a Crown dictation, nor a Belfast dictation nor a Dublin dictation under orders from Whitehall.

An Phoblacht

Imleabhar 7. Samhain 23, 1976. Uimhir 47.
44 Cearnóg Pharnell, B.A.C., Eire. Guthán: 747611.

APARTHEID exists in the 26 Counties primary educational system, according to the president of the Irish National Teachers' Organisation, speaking in Castlebar, Mr. Bernard Gillespie.

It is a thought for the demoralised delegates of the Irish Labour Party and who witnessed, perhaps, the beginning of the end of their party at its annual conference in Limerick at the weekend. But it is a thought, also, for all who still believe in even a part of the 1916 Proclamation, about treating equally all children of the nation.

Mr. Gillespie, when referring to apartheid in primary schooling, was talking of the smaller rural schools of one-teacher or two-teachers and which number about half of the gross total.

They are draughty and cold. In some of them not only the wind but the rain enters as well. Their toilet facilities may have been tolerable 50 years ago but not today. Many of them stink and lack amenities usual to modern schools in civilised places, such as libraries.

In contrast to these schools are others which are equal to the most advanced educational establishments anywhere and for an important political reason, that the parents of the children attending would not tolerate the stinking, primitive outhouses still put up with by so many rural dwellers, and that the elected representatives need no prompting.

Dickie Burke is as gifted a Tammany Hall man as any, knows at least some of his political onions and hence the apartheid. Get him off to Brussels.

However, it cannot all be explained in terms of resolute political pressure on the part of urban parents so very much alive to their basic human rights – and, as Mr. Gillespie so aptly pointed out, primary education is not a social service but a basic human right – but, rather, in terms of a major bureaucratic mistake backed, of course, by the politicians, all of them, in Leinster House.

The major bureaucratic mistake was that it is progressive to follow foreign trends, native instinct being a thing to distrust in principle. The foreign trends were that small schools must be abolished, to

be replaced by huge new schools, with bussing, where necessary – the cost would take care of itself, never mind the quality of education, so often the hallmark of the small school (thanks, in no small part, to the dedication, a result of community-integration, of so many of Mr. Gillespie's fellow workers).

The snag, now, is that the mismanaged Dublin state has run short of money and the grandiose plans must be shelved, meaning that, according to Mr. Gillespie's calculation, most of these small schools are likely to be used to educate at least one more generation.

If so, he threatens, and rightly, in our view, they must be improved so as to reach the minimum standards of civilisation for teacher and pupil, or else the I.N.T.O. will act.

We have no desire in this particular case to make political capital out of the Dublin-orientated state's dilemma and therefore we would urge the I.N.T.O. that, instead of taking strike action, they consider our proposals.

We suggest that the local Sinn Féin cumann, in every area where the local school is a disgrace, meet teachers and parents with a plan to raise funds and have the necessary work done by local labour, at trade union rates, instead of waiting for years, perhaps forever, for central government to provide the capital.

By this action, the local community will have a far greater stake in its school than ever before and successfully will be able to dictate to the Dublin bureaucrats what is to be.

The all-Irish primary and secondary schools, for decades, have been forced to take such measures to ensure their survival against the compulsory-English policy of the Dublin state. The number of such schools is increasing slowly, particularly in the Dublin area, where costs are highest.

One Sunday recently, a joint effort by Colaiste Íosagáin and Colaiste Eoin, in south Co. Dublin, raised more than £1,000 in a sale of work. If they had been waiting for the bureaucrats to give any real evidence, in terms of the money needed, that "education is free," they would have been waiting until Domsday.

Co-operativism was their answer to the bankruptcy of state and its antagonism to the concept of an Irish-Ireland. The Brothers and Nuns backed to the full the co-operative effort of parents and pupils.

The same sort of assistance may be expected from Nuns, Brothers, Church of Ireland and the clergy of other denominations in rural Ireland, together with the help of the laity of all persuasions – and of none. Co-operativism is the way to destroy the cancer of the know-all bureaucracy in Dublin – or Belfast, for that matter, as the organisers of the all-Irish primary school in Shaw Road, Belfast, have proved.

Mr. Gillespie and his executive are to be praised for the stand against apartheid conditions in primary schools. If the co-operative effort were as urgent – an important part of the Sinn Féin Éire Nua social jigsaw – fails, the I.N.T.O. will have no alternative but to avail itself of industrial action.

All we ask is that our proposal be given a fair trial. Sinn Féin cumann can prove their worth at parish level by making it successful.

If that trial is successful over a wide area, teachers, parents and pupils should be sufficiently encouraged to federate their co-operatives and demand a powerful say in the education of the children of the nation, enthroning the local community and pushing the destructive Dublin bureaucracy to one side. The result will be the first important practical assertion of community democracy and a vital step nearer the achievement of Irish freedom.

CONTÚIRT NA GAEILGE Á BAINTE, MAR CHEALG, AG WHITAKER...

Débe

AR CHEANN des na nuachtain a fhoilsítear i mBaile Átha Cliath an tseachtain seo caite duirt an Dr. T.K. Whitaker, Bord na Gaeilge, mas fíor, nach raibh aon mhaith a thuilleadh in eolas ar Ghaeilge mar an dara teanga, toisc nach raibh i muintir na Gaeltachta ach an da faoin geoid de phobal an stáitín.

Líon phobal na Gaeltachta agus sin amháin, is cóisil, an tomhais tá ag Whitaker agus ag Bord na Gaeilge; ach dá mbeadh sin i gceist agus sin amháin ba chóir go mbeadh gá le heolas ar Ghaeilge mar an dara teanga ós i Gaeilge an teanga traidisiúna, an teanga náisiúnta agus, de réir bhunreacht an stáitín féin, príomhtheanga an stáitín.

Ach tá níos mó ná sin i gceist. Agus más fíor do na figiúirí a foilsíodh ar na mallaibh tá eolas maith ar an nGaeilge ag thart ar 30 faoin gcéad den phobal. Méadó beag an figiúir sin ar stairte a foilsíodh 10 mílana ó shin, a chuir in iúl go raibh ag méadó i gceist ar líon an phobail a bhfuil Gaeilge mhaith ar a chumas.

Is féidir caint Whitaker a thuiscint i gcomhthéacs polaitiúil an status-quo agus a bhfuil déanta ag an status-quo céanna le blianta beaga chun an teanga náisiúnta a dhispeagadh agus a chur ar leithéad.

Bhí ag éirí leis na coláistí ullmhúcháin. Dhún Fianna Fáil iad, Bhí ag éirí na scoileanna lán-ghaelacha. Chinntigh Fianna Fáil nach mbeadh na téacsleabhair ar fáil dóibh agus chuir sin stop lena bhfas agus tús lena meath.

Lean an comhrialtas le plean seo an mhaoilathais agus chuir sé díreach le riachtas na Gaeilge le dul isteach sa bhaineann sé leis an stát, níl de stadas ag an nGaeilge ach mar chaitheamh aimsire, sa chuid is mó de (cé gur ceiltéar a leithéid ar na daoine bhíonn ag breathnú ar an teifíof), nó mar chlub beag príobháideach.

Port an Bhrianaigh

IS MAITH is eol do Whitaker nach ar mhuintir na Gaeltachta áit todhchaí na teanga Gaeilge ag brath ach ar mhuintir uilig na tíre, thuaidh theas; ach ní oireann sé dó sin a admhúil. B'fhearr leis port an Bhrianaigh. B'fhearr leis réiteach an Rianigh. Níl aon dochar polaitiúil sa Ghaeilge mar chaitheamh aimsire. Pléascán mór tá sa Ghaeilge mar ábhar polaitiúil.

An freagra a chaithfidh pobal na Gaeilge a thabhairt do leithéidí Whitaker agus do lucht an airgid, lucht an status-quo, i gcoitinín, gur ábhar polaitiúil an Ghaeilge, sa chaoi cheanna gur ábhar polaitiúil an Fhraincis i Céice Cheanada, sa chaoi cheanna gur ábhar polaitiúil an Ollanais i dtír na Beilge; gur ábhar polaitiúil an Románsa sin Eilbéis.

Ní haon mhionlach suarach 30 faoin gcéad den phobal. Níl haon mhionlach suarach, ach oiread, i gcomhthéacs náisiúil an domhain, agus áit na mionteagachaí sna tíortha, pobal na Gaeltachta, ach oiread.

Ach ná déantar an dá phobal a dhealú ó chéile. Bíodh sé de chiall ag muintir na Gaeltachta comhoibriú go dlúth le pobal Gaeilge na Gailtacha agus vice versa. Sin an áit a bhfuil an neart polaitiúil.

Níl aon amhras ormsa ach go bhfuil inní ar an gcomhrialtas faoin neart tá folaithe sa Ghaeilge, fé mar a bhí ar Fhianna Fáil agus fé mar atá ar Mason, Fí, i mBéal Feirste.

Chuir sé díomhch orm nach raibh freagra ar an toirt ag Whitaker ó gConradh, ó Ghluaiseacht Chearta Sibhíalta na Gaeltachta agus ó na heagrais Ghaeilge uilig. Caitheadh nach dtuigean siad tábhacht na bolsairí-eachta nó an buille láidir in éadan mhíneach na Gaeilge bhí i gceist suarach Whitaker.

Achan, seans go mbeidh daoine ag scríobh chugam faoi léann agus faoi Ghaeilge Whitaker iad áiteann orm gur Gaeilgeoir den scoth é.

Is fíor go bhfuil togha na Gaeilge aige. Bhí togha na Gaeilge, freisin, ag Donnall O. agus ag go leor léadóirí eile.

Nach bhfuil Gaeilge mhaith ag Liam Mac Cosgair? Nach raibh Gaeilge mhaith ag Eamonn de Bladh agus ag Risteard O. Maolchatha? Nach bhfuil Gaeilge mhaith ag roinnt den Chonstablacht Uladh agus ag roinn fháinseis na Sasannach Fein?

Feachtas na teifíof

AN tSEACHTAIN seo caite scríobhas giota faoi feachtas na Chonradh na Gaeilge ach níor éirigh leis spás a fháil san eagrán deiridh. Mar sin féin, fíor an obair poiblíocht ar na nuachtáin agus eile.

Is é tá i gceist ag an gConradh eagar a chur ar an éileamh thart faoin tír faoi chearta

poiblí Gaeilge. Geallann an Conradh go ndéanfaidh sé cás poiblí polaitiúil de gach clamhsán agus agoid a bhfuil bun leis, maidir le cearta teanga.

Guíom ráth ar an obair. Níor chóir mórán eile a rá go dtí go bhfeicfidh muid an toradh. Tá neach éicint ag inseacht dom go seach-nóidh an rialtas aon chomhlinnt leis an gConradh faoi na clamhsáin cheanna. Tá údar agam. Fós féin níl sinne sa phríosún mar gheall ar an bhfeachtas teifíof. Tá os cionn 20 duine ag diúltú aon cheadúnas ar theifíof a íoc le RTE go dtí go mbeidh clár sáslú Gaeilge ar fáil dúinn ar an scailéan beag.

Ar ndóigh, tuigim go maith don Chomhrialtas. Níl ach suim shuarach airgid i gceist. Chostódh sé i bhfad níos mó ná sin chun na Gaeilgeoirí seo a chuireamh. Chostódh sé níos mó fós iad a chur isteach sa phríosún agus a chothú ann.

Ba dheacraí áit a fháil dóibh sna príosúin. B'fhearr leis an rialtas aon chhillín táí follann sna príosúin a líonadh le daoine is contúirt na Gaeilgeoirí cailánacha.

Chomh maith le sin uilig, níl aon cheo is anna le croí na nGaeilgeoirí céanna ná seal a chaitheamh faoi ghlas. Cén fáth go sáodh an Chomhrialtas iad? Cén fáth go gcuirfeadh an Chomhrialtas lasair sa mbairíle?

Is eol do dhaoine áirithe sa Chomhrialtas, chomh maith leis an nGaeilgeoir is tuiscenair, gur buanna tá sa Ghaeilge ach i lámhshéil go mí-chúramach. Dá mbeadh Conradh na Gaeilge sásta feachtas dáiríre a chur ar bun faoi cheart na ndaoine do sheirbhís teifíof i bpríomhtheanga na tíre, ba shin scéal ar fad eile. Ach, mar a mhaíonn Tomas O. Domhnaill, "tá Conradh na Gaeilge inní phóca agus níl baol dúinn poní treo sin".

In ainneoin sin uilig, caitheamh Maolshéachlainn O. Caolli a mholadh go spéir as ucht na litreacha a scríobhann sé do na nuachtáin.

Chomh cailínáir réasúnta atáid gur leas do ndámhaid oireadh is smid a rá ina n-éad. Seanchas an rialtais seo, fanacht ina thost: éireoidh an scríbhneoir tuirseach den feachtas: teifíof an rud beag a chéile.

Nach é an trua Mhuire é nach dtugann mórán eile de chuid phobal na Gaeilge lámh chéanta do Mhaolshéachlainn?

Feachtas an Chonartha

SEO A LEANAS eolas ar feachtas chearta na Gaeilge tá fógraíte ag Conradh na Gaeilge. Níl de locht agamsa féin air ach, de réir dealraimh, go bhfuil dóchas ag an gConradh fós féin gur féidir leis an stáitín i mBaile Átha Cliath a thabhairt leis, trí loighic agus trí réasún, in ionad páirt a ghlaicadh sa réabhlóid chultúrtha in éadan an impiúilachais gach áit in Éirinn.

Ach seo a leanas, ar aon chaoi, an chaipéis a fuairas ag preas-agallamh, Samhain 10. 1. Foilsimid inniu Forógra Cearta don Ghaeilge gur glacadh leis ar Ardtheach an Chonartha. Chun go n-athreimeofar teanga is gá do stát bheith taobh thiar di agus polasáil láidir athreimthe bheith i dhéanmáid aige. Léiríonn an cúig bhun phríonsabail den Forógra na nithe gur gá do stát, a sheasann le hathreimíú na Gaeilge, a dhearbú.

Siad uile stáit na 26 contae ó chuspóir an athreimthe agus seánadh na Gaeilge ag stát na Sé Chontae is cúis leis an bhfeachtas seo.

Bhíodh is
* go bhfuil líon na gcainteoirí Gaeilge imithe in airde go 789, 429 (28.3 faoin gcéad de dhaoir na 26 Chontae Dáonáireamh 1971);

* Go dtacaíonn dhá thrian den phobal le forbairt agus le cur chun cinn na Gaeilge (Tuarscáil an Choiste um Thuaghe ar Thearcadh na Phobail i dTaobh na Gaeilge);
* Gur dóigh le 74 faoin gcéad den phobal gur cóir don stát bheith ag tacú leis an nGaeilch trí phostanna, ach go háirithe, a chur ar fáil do mhuintir na Gaeltachta (Tuarscáil an Choiste ar Dhearcadh an Phobail);

* Go bhfuil 70 faoin gcéad den phobal i bhfabhar scoileanna lán Ghaelacha bheith i soláthar ar éileamh (Tuarscáil an Choiste ar Dhearcadh an Phobail);

* Go bhfuil 81 faoin gcéad den phobal den tuairim gur cóir don stát bheith ag tacú go láidir le foilsiú téacsleabhair i nGaeilge (Tuarscáil an Choiste ar Dhearcadh an Phobail);

* Gur dóigh le 66 faoin gcéad den phobal gur cóir don rialtas spreagadh agus tacaíocht a thabhairt d'úsáid na Gaeilge ar an (Ar leanúint ar lch. 6)

The fight against compulsory English

A NEWS conference was told in Dublin last week that Conradh na Gaeilge has opened a complaints bureau to which everyone who has reason to believe that his or her linguistic rights are being denied or abused may have recourse.

Tomas O Monachain was denied a court in his own language in the Gaeltacht. Bean de Barra's visit to her jailed son in Port Laoise was ended because mother and son spoke Irish. Rev. Michael O Dochartaigh is threatened with jail because he refuses to pay a fine, following an English-only parking ticket on his car which displayed a notice that he was an Irish speaker.

More than 20 people, men and women, are threatened with jail because they refuse to pay for television licences, their refusal being based on the steadily decreasing use of Irish on TV.

Children's rights

But these are only the tip of the iceberg of linguistic injustice in the Twenty-Six and Six Counties where thousands of children are being denied education

through the language of choice of their parents, the ancestral language, Irish.

All over the country, gradually, insidiously, bilingual placenames and other public signs are being replaced by notices in one language, compulsory English.

Some members of the Garda Síochána refuse to speak Irish to members of the public with whom they are doing business and insult them for using Irish.

In at least one documented case an Irish speaker, who insisted on his constitutional right to use Irish when interrogated, was assaulted by members of the Special Branch so doing.

As we go to press we have been told that listening to Raidió na Gaeltachta has been forbidden to the political prisoners in Port Laoise Jail where Irish courses also have been banned for more than a

year and Gael-Linn and other organisations prevented from sending in Irish language tapes and discs.

Shameful pressure

The Conradh na Gaeilge complaints bureau will succeed only if serviced with fully documented complaints, all the thousands of them, illustrating the shameful deprivation of basic rights to people whose only crime is that they prefer to speak and use the 2,000 year old national language of this country and resent the imposition of the compulsory use of the Queen's English on them.

The bureau will accept complaints in Irish and English, and will welcome even the most basic assertion of Irish identity, such as the use of the traditional, Irish form of given surnames.

Footnote: According to the latest census, the number of fluent Irish speakers in the 26 Counties has increased and now numbers almost a third of the population, most of them being in the younger age groups. Slowly but surely . . .

POLITICAL NOTES

by Maren

Dr. Newman's call for 'Brits out'

DESPITE the fact that the Drumcollogher, Co. Limerick man Dr. Jeremiah Newman, Bishop of Limerick, has called for a British withdrawal from the Six Counties, I am not yet saying decades of the Rosary for him.

For the Bishop, although moving in the right direction, has not yet bared his teeth to condemn the conditions under which political prisoners suffer in Port Laoise Jail, nor the growing incidence of gardai brutality.

Until he does, the decades remain unsaid.

Dr. Newman first advocated his "Brits out" theme at a dinner of the Limerickmen's Association in London — and that a future it caused.

The Association issued a public apology for his comments because they said — wait for it — some members of the Association at the dinner had English friends with them. True!

Can you imagine the Brits ever apologising to anybody for anything? How subservient can you get?

However, the apology did not end the matter. Letters from other Limerickmen appeared in the Irish Post congratulating the Bishop for his words and condemning the Association for its slavish reaction.

These Limerickmen, true Irishmen all, were appalled at the action of the Association leadership and said so in no uncertain terms. They were proud to be Irish, they said, and agreed wholeheartedly with the sentiments expressed by the Bishop.

Fair play to them!

They are off on a new bandwagon — an Independent Ulster. It will cure everything and all and sundry will live happily ever after.

By "they" I mean the bandwagon politicians, including the S.D.L.P. and the Unionists — followed, naturally, by the bum-tickers of Leinster House who see the hand of Albion in the pudding mixture.

Jackeen Lynch, true to form, forgot that a Federal solution is a Sinn Féin copyright and embraced that view. Someone, sometime, must have given him a copy of "Éire Nua".

Incidentally, does not Lynch's words give aid and comfort to the Provisionals and thereby . . . No, they'd never lift him and give him a going over in a garda barracks — or would they?

Trade Union chiefs in Limerick received a visit from Special Branch men just a few hours after the new Bill became law. They felt it was in the nature of a warning to toe the line, or else, said one of them.

How many more times must it be said that this Government is hell-bent on the establishment of a Fascist totalitarian State wherein all opposition, including trade unions, will be banned.

Will nobody catch on, before it is too late!

S.D.L.P. secretly discussing a federal solution

PARTITION, 50 years of Unionist rule at Stormont, four years of direct rule from Westminster, Darlington, Sunningdale, the Assembly, the Executive, the Convention, all were British imposed solutions to the Irish question, all have failed.

The Sinn Féin policy of Federalism is by far the most viable solution to the problems of Ireland. It is an idea now being discussed secretly by the S.D.L.P. and which has now been promoted openly by Fianna Fáil, a means to end the strife in this island.

Sinn Féin has been promoting the policy of a federate Ireland for some years now. It has been recognised by our movement, after careful study, as a form of government tried and tested in other countries of the world who had similar problems to our own, and it has proved successful.

A Federal Ireland as envisaged by the Republican Movement would have four Provincial Parliaments representing four historic provinces of Ireland, Ulster, Munster, Leinster and Connaught, with a central Parliament. Each Provincial Parliament would retain autonomy over matters peculiar to the region. The main prerequisite to the institution of, or discussion on the federal idea is peace. The only means of restoring peace is by British withdrawal from Ireland. With the withdrawal of the British there would be no foreign interference in the affairs of the Irish nation. In this way all sections of the country could come together to formulate their future, to establish stable government and thereby protect future generations.

— P.R.O.
Comhairleachtanai S.F.,
Belfast.

GREETINGS

Greetings to Brendan Dowd, Ballymack, on his birthday in Albany Prison, Isle of Wight,

THE ADVERT



When you open the papers it stares in
At the front door, On the way to work,
Or back home;

The advert

All seven years of it

That should be enough for them

After all the Sevens of Years

For every bloody one of them

Over fourteen thousand soldiers of them

Morre part-timers who cannot count them

Or cannot be accounted for

Are rent collectors

Taxing Ireland

With another seven years bad luck!

You cannot stand still

But it is recorded in some dusty London cellar;

Or sit in the garden and breathe

The above poem written by a Republican prisoner in Long Kesh has been inspired by the advertising campaign being carried on by the Northern Ireland Office against the Republican Movement.

Unless someone in London is paid the lease;
Or children play, unless they say please
For outdoor relief to someone in London.

All the Sevens, the advert wears
So sinfully, so deadly, so murderously,
So inefficiently,
And so inferior.

Demanding we give blood, our bones, our souls
Our home
After seven hundred
Years and more
It is enough for them
To admit it
We are so superior

— Madra Rua.

UUUC want to retain status quo

THE UUUC, and not for the first time in its short career, has once again displayed the weakness inherent in political combines which while showing similar aims, in the case of the UUUC the common denominator is the retention of the status quo which denies the right of self-determination to the Irish people, at the same time holds such divergent views on how best this may be achieved. Such differences range from the idea of an Independent Northern Ireland right through the scale to the idea of complete integration with Britain.

DISARRAY

Latest signs of disarray have come from the Westminster representatives of the UUUC. The villain of the piece is, and again not for the first time in his political career, Enoch Powell. He has decided to support the struggling British Labour government. A strange departure one might think for a man who is a professed Conservative and moreover one who during his career has displayed all the fascism of a capitalist party member. Of course all the members of the UUUC are themselves fascists and Powell was assured of a place then in their ranks. What then has gone wrong?

SIMPLE ANSWER

The answer is very simple. Enoch Powell, as was pointed out by Sinn Féin when it was announced that he would be entering what passes as politics in the Six Occupied Counties, is a political opportunist and as such is ready to break away from the restraints imposed by the UUUC. Not that this will have any effect on his views on a United Ireland.

The UUUC with the blind arrogance which typifies the monolithic unionism which has inflicted untold misery on the Irish nation failed to grasp this point and is once again in embarrassing difficulties.

This, of course, is no comfort to the UUUC nor is it of any great interest to the Republican Movement. What is important is the fact that the UUUC by its bigotry and intolerance is once again showing its weaknesses to the world.

UUUC CANNOT GOVERN

What is further emerging from the not so internal wranglings of the UUUC is the indisputable fact that neither the UUUC nor its separate component parts is fit to govern our country.

The only organisation fit to govern this nation in the interest of the people is the Republican Movement. This fact is not nor will it be acceptable to the UUUC which will continue to delude its followers that prosperity is to be found only so long as Britain is prepared to be allowed a say in the running of our affairs. The fallacy of the philosophy of the UUUC in this respect is daily becoming more

apparent as England continues to sink deeper into the morass of her own economic inability. To the Unionists of all shades and to the quivering politicians who have for their own ends betrayed the desire for unity among the Irish people the words of Dr. Thomas Dwyer, Bishop of Limerick, one of the few churchmen to support the men of 1916, to the appeasers of that period are applicable today. "Your resolution will be a comfort to those who reverence the memory of Ireland's latest martyrs, and will assure them that our countrymen, in spite of all the corruption that is at work, distinguish between genuine patriotism and all the spurious stuff that has been disgusting us of late".

— P.R.O.
Clonard Martyrs' S.F. Cumann,
Belfast.

AN CUMANN CABHRACH KERRY

THE A.G.M. of above Cumann was held in the Grand Hotel, Tralee on Thursday, 11th November.

The following officers were elected for the coming year.

Chairman, Con O'Shea; Vice-Chairman, John McKenna; Secretary, Michael Horgan; Treasurers, Nanette Barrett and Jack Godley; Organisers, Sean Murphy (North Kerry) and Dermot Brosnan (South Kerry).

Same committee as last year will serve. Also present at the meeting were — Joe Cahill, Margaret Adams and Rita McGlynn from the Central Committee.

Speaking at the A.G.M. Joe Cahill congratulated the Committee on the great work they had done during the past year. After outlining the work of Cumann Cabhrach and giving facts and figures of monies needed to keep an Cumann Cabhrach going he exhorted all present to an even greater effort during the coming year.

JOHN JOE RICE CUMANN SINN FEIN, TRALEE

AT THE A.G.M. of above Cumann the following were elected: — Chairman, Michael Cunliffe; Vice-Chairman, Garry Scollard; Secretary, Phil O'Sullivan; Treasurer, Michael Horgan; P.R.O., Joe Touhy.

Anyone interested in joining Sinn Féin in Tralee area should contact any of the above officers.

Fascist six-county state not on — O Bradaigh

COMMENTING on the speculation of a U.D.I. by Loyalists in the North and Jack Lynch's "robbing" of a Sinn Féin policy, Ruairi O'Bradaigh, speaking at the A.G.M. of North Tipperary Comhairle Ceantair in Nenagh last week, said:

"Mr. Jack Lynch's belated advocacy of a Federal Ireland is breathtaking for its sheer political opportunism. Now that the people's sufferings and sacrifices in the Six Counties under the leadership of the Republican Movement have made a continuation of British rule there impossible, Fianna Fáil seeks to cash in on the success of a struggle which they stabbed in the back in 1971 and 1972.

STANDING IDLY BY

"The people of the North do not forget Mr. Lynch's 'standing idly by' in 1969, his threat of intervention in 1970, his border collaboration with British Forces in 1971, his Special No-jury court, R.T.E. censorship, closing of Sinn Féin offices and jailing of Sinn Féin leaders in 1972, his Offences Against the State Amendment Act and his convenient 'lapse of memory' in the Littlejohn case, in 1973.

"In September of last year, Fianna Fáil said a British declaration of intent to disengage from Ireland would 'overheat the situation'. Six weeks later, in October, they had the temerity to adopt the seeking of such a declaration as official Fianna Fáil policy. Will 1977 find Mr. Lynch advocating a Democratic Socialist Republic for all Ireland? We doubt it.

"Fianna Fáil will not take on the forces of economic colonialism exploiting our people but, going on present form, they are quite capable of engaging in further political gimmickry and adopting the mere label of a 'Socialist Republic'.

"One is tempted to ask why Mr. Lynch did not respond to Mr. Desmond Boal's call for a Federal

Ireland in January, 1974. But then Sunningdale was tottering along and the Federal option was not open. Fianna Fáil will say.

"And why did Mr. Lynch not take up the Republican Movement's detailed proposals for a nine-county Ulster Parliament within a Federal Ireland in August, 1971, a few days subsequent to the first internment swoops in the Six Counties? The plain answer is that Fianna Fáil at that time merely sought the removal of the Stormont regime within the context of continuing British rule in Ireland.

"The obvious lesson to be drawn from all of this is that only solution would be in the British leaving Ireland and the building of a Federal Socialist Republic.

AIMS OF THE STRUGGLE

"Similarly, now that the Ulster Loyalist Central Co-ordinating Committee has been forced by the dynamics of the struggle to recognise the inevitability of British disengagement, they seek refuge for a continuation of sectarian domination in a Six-County independent State.

"A Fascist-style repressive Six Counties on the Rhodesian model is the only type of independent state which can emerge on the basis of the original sectarian headcount of 1921. This is not acceptable to the Republican Movement, whether Mr. Lynch and Fianna Fáil approve, or whether they do not.

"Neither they nor the present Dublin Government have taken part in the struggle and they are not entitled to tell the people of the North what they should or

should not accept and live with. Those who wear the shoe know where it pinches.

The immediate aims of the struggle are:

* A British declaration of intent;

* An acknowledgement by the British of the right of the whole people of Ireland to decide their future; and

* A general amnesty for all political prisoners.

"The political aim is a Federal Socialist Republic: this envisages a four-province federal Ireland with maximum devolution of power to regions, districts and communities within each province according to local majorities, thereby providing checks and balances against tyranny and domination by any one section over another.

"A democratic socialist Ireland would end the exploitation of both Catholic and Protestant working people by economic imperialism and give the ownership of our resources to the communities to be developed for the benefit of our people.

"In such policies and under the tried and trusted leadership of the Republican Movement lies the real hope for a permanent end to violence and injustice in Ireland, and not in party political opportunism and gimmickry.

"The beleaguered people who have paid the price in blood, anguish and tears over the past seven and a half years must not be cheated out of the full fruits of their sufferings by those who would perpetuate the system of exploitation under a new and more acceptable guise. Sinn Féin will ensure that this does not happen and, for its part, Sinn Féin is prepared to meet and have discussions with any interest involved in the struggle".



Officers of the newly elected North Kerry Comhairle Ceantair with Ruairi O'Bradaigh S.F. President and members of the Ardcumhaire at the A.G.M.

FRONT ROW (from left): Miss Mai Daly (Hon. President), Walter Lynch, Ruairi O'Bradaigh, Batt Dowling and John Joe Sheehy.

BACK ROW: Richard Behal, Aine Lynch (P.R.O.), Pat Quirke (Organiser), Paddy Campbell (delegate to comhairle Mumhan), Tom Devanney (Treasurer), Donie O'Sullivan (finance officer), Michael Horgan (chairman), Liam Cotter (secretary).

Sinn Féin General Meetings

Leinster Executive

A meeting was held in Longford and the following officers were elected to the Leinster Executive. Chairman, Sean Lynch; Secretary, Mary Casey; Treasurer, Michael Nevin. The meeting called on the people of Longford to stand behind Sinn Féin in their demands that a true and lasting peace with justice be established in Ireland.

Luchicore

The A.G.M. of Cumann Sinn Féin Roibeard Emmet, Inse Caoir, Dublin took place on Sunday, 7th November 1976. There was a full attendance of members. It was agreed at the meeting that attempts be made to bring Sinn Féin policy closer to the people of Inse Caoir.

The following officers were elected: Cathaoirleach, A. O. Conghaile; Rúnaí, M. O. Mathúna; Cisteoir, S. O. Flannura; Oifig eagracháin, P. O. Naughtle; Oifigeach chaidreamh poiblí, C. O. Cinnáith; Oifigeach oideachais, C. O. Cinnáith; Oifig leasa sóisialta, B. O. hÍche.

North Dublin

The following officers were elected at the A.G.M. of the North Dublin Comhairle Ceantair:

Chairman, Michael MacConmara; Vice-chairman, Sean McGovern; Secretary, Mairead Gallagher; Treasurer, Tom O'Donovan; Organiser, Sean Gallagher; P.R.O., Maire Leddy; Finance Officer, Tony McDonnell; Education Officer, George Lynch.

Co. Wexford

The Annual General Meeting of the Co. Wexford Comhairle Ceantair of Sinn Féin was held last week in the Sinn Féin meeting rooms, Castle Hill, Enniscorthy, Mr. Oliver Murray, Gorey presided.

The outgoing chairman, delivering his address, said that during the year progress had been made despite the opposition of many forces both inside and outside the country. He made a special appeal to all the present to do all they could to help the

dependents of prisoners. "It is costing £500,000 yearly to support the prisoners dependents and every effort must be made to maintain and improve our level of help", he said.

The Secretary, Mr. Phil Kelly, Wexford, dealt in detail with the activities of the Comhairle Ceantair and Mr. Edward O'Connor, Enniscorthy, treasurer, presented a detailed financial statement.

The following officers were elected: Chairman, Mr. Oliver Murray; Vice-chairman, Mr. Nicholas O'Reilly, New Ross; Secretary, Mr. Phil Kelly, Wexford; Treasurer, Mr. Edward O'Connor, Enniscorthy; Education Officer, Mr. P. Walsh, Ballybrann, New Ross; Organiser, Liam O'Cuipair, Moh-na-Gaor; P.R.O. Sean O'Dubhghaill, U.C., Enniscorthy.

Delegates to AnComhairle Coige — Chairman and Secretary, Mr. John Jordan was unanimously elected President.

A minute's silence was observed in memory of Maire Drumm.

McCabe/Quigley "Ath Cliath"

At the A.G.M. of the McCabe/Quigley S.F. Cumann the following officers were elected for the coming year:

Chairman, Peader Turney; Vice-chairman, Martin Murphy; Secretary, Cora Marshall; Treasurers Bernard Keating and Jack Murphy; P.R.O. George Marshall.

The meeting which was held at No. 5 Blessington Street, Dublin was attended by Margaret Gallagher, a member of the North Dublin Comhairle Ceantair.

A minute's silence was observed in honour of the late Maire Ní Dhroma. The Cumann wish to extend their deepest sympathy to her bereaved family.

Buncrana

At the A.G.M. of the McDavid/Gaughan S.F. Cumann, Buncrana the following officers were elected: Chairman, E. Fullerton, Vice-chairman, J. Quinn, Secretary, J. McMenamin, Treasurers, G. Farren & J. McLaughlin, Education Officer, E. Fullerton, P.R.O. E. Fullerton, Comhairle Ceantair delegates, J. McMenamin and E. Fullerton.

An Phoblacht seller in Limerick jail

On the morning of Saturday 13th Noel McCarthy was once again arrested and conveyed to Limerick prison for selling An Phoblacht on the streets of Cork and also for selling Easter Lilies last Easter.

He has previously been imprisoned on similar charges. Ironically, on the night before his arrest vandals went on one of their regular rampages in the Spangle Hill (Farranree) area, doing considerable damage to the garden walls of several homes including Noel's!

This vandalism has been going on in the area for years; yet the only time a member of the Gardai is seen in the area is when they come to harry republicans. When one of the 'squad' which came to arrest Noel was asked by a member of Noel's family where he had been when vandals destroying public and private property he quickly replied: 'This is not my district'!

It was pointed out to him and it was his district when it came to arresting a member of the Republican Movement.

Noel is Chairman Cumann Brian O'Diollu, Sinn Féin, Corcaigh.

—P.R.O.

Cork C.C. Sinn Féin.

Thank you Sinn Féin

THE tenants of the 60 all-electric houses in Cox's Demesne, Dundalk wish to thank the members of the Worthington/Watters Sinn Féin Cumann for their help in securing solid fuel fire places.

We hope (they will) that Sinn Féin will also succeed in their agitation for a playground for our children.

— the Grateful Tenants.

New Cork service

A Service Centre has been established by Cork Comhairle Ceantair at the Sinn Féin Rooms, Market Avenue, off Oliver Plunkett St. (Grand Parade end).

A member of Sinn Féin will be on duty from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday and on Saturdays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. to receive complaints and advise on matters such as Housing, Rents, Employment, or interference with Citizens Civil Rights.

Free of charge

The service is free of charge and is available to all citizens irrespective of class, creed or political opinions.

Whatever your problem is, come to us and we will do everything in our power to help you to solve it.

—Gearóid Mac Carthaigh Secretary.

Roscommon support for An Cumann Cabhrach

ROSCOMMON Comhairle Ceantair Sinn Féin, is to launch a massive fund-raising drive to assist the dependants of prisoners by organising a series of functions throughout the county, it was decided at the annual general meeting.

A large attendance from the county packed the Percy French Hotel, Strokestown, and heard Chairman Mr. Cryan say that the past year was one of fluctuating fortunes for the Republican Movement.

But, he added, it was obvious to everyone now that the British are pulling out of the Six-Counties and the battle would be on for a political victory, North and South.

Both he, and Secretary Mr. Tommy Geraghty, exhorted members to take every opportunity to bring the policies of Sinn Féin to the public and show that there is a viable alternative to the present bankrupt political set-up in the country.

Organisers

To assist in this aim, it was agreed that three area

organisers would be appointed to work under the Chairmanship of County Organiser Mr. Michael Mulligan.

Connacht Organiser, Miss Maureen McLoughlin, said County Roscommon had functioned very well during the past year and required little attention from her. She hoped the efficiency of the party effort would continue in 1977.

Officers elected: Chairman, Mr. Padraig Cryan; Vice-chairman, Mr. Farrell Conry; Secretary, Mr. Tommy Geraghty; Assistant-secretary, Mr. Des Croghan; Treasurer, Mr. Dermot Mullooly; P.R.O., Mr. Michael Murray; Finance Officer, Mr. Paul Kearns; Education Officer, Mr. John Costelloe; Publicity Officer, Mr. Joe Kelly; Organiser, Mr. Michael Mulligan.

Nonsensical Estate names

by James Hope

THERE has been a long tradition, unfortunately, in Irish towns of naming streets and squares after English Lord Lieutenants, royalty, and nobility. I would make a distinction here between the Anglo-Irish developers, such as the Gardiners, or even created the streets, and the short-lived visitors such as my Lord Camden, Talbot or Buckingham, whose stay happened to coincide with the time of christening. They were short term blow-ins; presumably it was thought well to curry favour with them, and although I am not in favour of wholesale name-changing at the present time (there are so many important others things to do), yet it must be said that the only merit in keeping them is that it helps us to date a street.

SHONEEN PRACTICE

What can one say, however, to the laughable and disgracefully shoneen practice of modern estate developers, especially those around Dublin, who fall over themselves in thinking up emasculated and bastardised English titles for housing estates where, you may be sure, a good Irish one — in the shape of the *townland name* — already exists? Yet, this practice is now widespread and hits one in the eye wherever one travels.

I can understand the various loyalist builders, auctioneers, and developers in the North who, over the years, have stuck innocuous tags upon the wee roads and drives, with their serried ranks of red-bricked bungalows created by them. Right enough, you have Lester Gardens, Princess Drive, and Beechmount Road in Magherafelt, or Meadowbank Lane, Lynda Avenue and King's Gardens in Newtownabbey. Yet they are well counter-balanced with names — basically Irish — taken from roads leading to other places. Newtownabbey has Cairnduff Crescent and Ballyduff Brae, while Magherafelt has Mullaghboy Lane and Tobernmore Road, together with many many similar others.

PUNY MINDS

What are we to say, however, to the extraordinary titles now being given as estate names in Southern Ireland? The other day, for instance, I read that Dublin County Council had officially re-named the ancient Toberbun at St. Margaret's, Co. Dublin to Rivermeade! I ask you. With the rash of Meades, Streamisides, Chelseas, Somersets, Lawns, Nutgroves, Stretsburies, Hazels, and such like that are now being heaped upon us by the salesmen of new houses we shall soon lose all sense of place, all sense of identity, never mind national identity, language, roots, or nonsense of that sort.

Talk about inferiority complex. It is a lot of damned nonsense. I do not blame the people who live there. It merely shows the puny mind of our administration that they allow such cultural penetration.

U.S. TAXPAYERS SUBSIDIZE BRITAIN

BRITAIN'S new application for an International Monetary Fund loan of 3.9 billion dollars is another raid on the U.S. Treasury, according to the National Council of Irish Americans in Buffalo, New York. The loan application is the second made this year by Britain which the Council refers to as "beggar Britain" asking for another handout from the American governmental donations to the IMF so that the American public is really being asked to subsidize the tottering British welfare state.

According to the New York Times, the United States is being asked to underwrite 2 billion of the 3.9 billion dollar loan Britain seeks. Last June, Britain received 5.9 billion dollars from the IMF, an international lending bank whose funds are created by various western governments out of tax revenues. Many European countries have expressed resentment

over the new British application.

Mr. Craig Moore, an officer of the National Council of Irish Americans, has said in a statement:

"We are asking our government to deny the British loan application. We see no reason why the U.S. taxpayer should be asked to subsidize the military government London has set up in Northern Ireland, especially in view of the fact that the Council of Europe and its Human Rights Commission recently found Britain guilty of torturing political prisoners in Northern Irish concentration camps. It is obvious that Britain is now a beggar nation with little self-respect. Despite this, British politicians spend about 1.5 billion dollars a year to maintain and supply its army in Northern Ireland. U.S. taxpayers should not subsidize such ventures."

President Ford's approval of the

new loan application is a definite act of intervention in Northern Irish affairs on the side of the British government. The International Monetary Fund was created to assist in the developments of the world's under-privileged and undeveloped nations. The British application, if approved, would deplete the remaining funds held by the IMF.

OPPOSITION

Many third world nations have expressed opposition to the British application. The Wall Street Journal and New York Times have reported that the present financial crisis has been brought about by policies of the British government. Public opinion in Britain may force the government to withdraw from Northern Ireland in view of the mounting financial crisis.

Fermanagh man re-arrested as he left Long Kesh

THE arrest of James Malloy on his release from Long Kesh is strongly condemned by the Fermanagh Sinn Féin Comhairle Cheantair.

In a statement the Comhairle cheantair said it regards the arrest of Mr. Malloy as a vindictive act initiated by the Enniskillen Special Branch and a new dimension in the harassment of released republican prisoners.

Mr. Malloy who had served almost three years in Long Kesh was released on Thursday, 10th November. He had scarcely stepped outside the camp when he was arrested and taken to Armagh R.U.C. station. His family were not informed and only learned later in the day of his arrest from comrades who were released with him. After a number of phone calls they found he was being detained under article 10 of the Emergency Powers Act.

In this case it appears that certain members of the R.U.C.

Special Branch in Enniskillen were not satisfied with their pound of flesh and are anxious to inflict more suffering on this man and his family, by their morning dash to Long Kesh to assure he was denied freedom for a while longer.

It has not gone unnoticed in Fermanagh that no such enthusiasm has been shown by the same Special Branch in evoking Section 10 E.P.A. to detain certain Loyalists who were named as accomplices in the bombing of Pettigo (Co. Donegal) by the man convicted and sentenced for the act.

Unlike Mr. Malloy this man and a number of those he named *ake or ake* members of the U.D.R. So much for the impartiality of the "Security Forces".

Hugginstown remembers Manchester Martyrs

THE annual commemoration to mark the execution of Allen, Larkin, and O'Brien was held in the little Kilkenny village of Hugginstown on Friday night, 12th November.

A very large crowd was in attendance despite bad weather conditions. A torch light procession was held through the village to the platform.

Among those present were Mrs. Joe Foran (Moencoin), Stiofan O Maolalái (Kilkenny), Willie Murphy (Hugginstown) and Risteard de Burca (Calainn) of the Kilkenny Comhairlecheantair, Sinn Féin; and Risteard Behal of Kilmacow.

ORATION

The oration was delivered by Sean O Cionair, manager of *An Phoblacht* in the course of which he spoke of the connection between the Manchester Martyrs and the struggle being waged in our own day. He referred to the plight of Irish prisoners in Port Laoise and other prisons, referring particularly to local men Paddy Dollard, Eamonn Lawlor and Gerard Doeney. The oration was enthusiastically received by the cheering crowd.

Castleblayney
S. F. Councillor
imprisoned

COLR. Patsy McGinn and his son, Bernard are serving one month's imprisonment in Mountjoy in connection with the Port Laoise hunger strike last year. They were arrested on November 15th, 1976.

1916 Commemoration: Women arrested

MISS Lita Campbell of Dublin has been arrested and is serving five days imprisonment in Mountjoy for failing to pay a fine imposed on her for taking part in the banned 1916 Commemoration held by Sinn Féin at the G.P.O., Dublin.

Miss Campbell has also refused to attend the court hearing.

A decade of the rosary was recited by Peadar O Riain who asked all present to remember the Manchester Martyrs and all Ireland's patriot dead.

FUNCTION

After the commemoration ceremonies had ended a very successful dance was held in the local hall. Proceeds went to An Cumann Cabhrach.

We warned you...

By TONY O'CALLAGHAN in Dublin and
CHRISTOPHER PARKES in Brussels

THE MINISTER for Foreign Affairs, Dr. FitzGerald, warned his fellow EEC Ministers in Brussels yesterday that if Ireland's fisheries demands were not met by January 1 next, we would declare an exclusive 30-mile band within the overall 200-mile EEC limit. All fishing vessels, even those from other EEC States, would be excluded from this band, he said.

...to the courts and not a step to be taken to conserve and protect fish stocks. Asked about the possibility of an Irish 50-mile claim, Dr. FitzGerald said the suggestion seemed "somewhat extreme," since it would produce for Ireland many more fish than it could exploit.

Quotations from the *Irish Press*, 16/11/76. *An Phoblacht* has warned many times that Garret FitzGerald had no intention of seeking a 200-mile fishing limit for Ireland.

SUPPORT POLITICAL STATUS

Unveiling of memorials

Memorials to Jim Loughrie and Sean Campbell killed on December 6th, 1975, will be unveiled on Sunday, 5th December 1976.

The Jim Loughrie memorial will be unveiled at Drumintee at 11.00 a.m. mass.

The Sean Campbell memorial will be unveiled immediately after at Kilcurry.

PROMINENT REPUBLICANS WILL ATTEND.

Hugh Coney memorial



Hugh Gerard Coney, R.L.P.

The unveiling of the memorial to Hugh Gerard Coney murdered by British occupation forces on November 6th, 1974 will take place at Clonoe churchyard on Sunday, 28th November at 2.00 p.m.

Prominent Republican speakers will attend.

NOTEBOOK

Why the FLB uses force

Before I get back to the FLB, I want to say something to Pádraig Mac Eochagáin whose letter (Samhain 2) I missed when it appeared. He says I was being flippant about "people's councils".

I was a bit flippant, yes, about the suggestion for "people's councils" which was mentioned in a dispatch from Long Kesh, because it was so appallingly vague and unthought-out as to be meaningless. I could have been angry, too; for vague, well-sounding, unthought-out proposals are a mere pretence of contributing to the revolutionary cause.

But Mr. Mac Eochagáin apparently has clear ideas about the people's councils which he wants. He means the district councils for every 10-40,000 people, and the regional and provincial bodies, advocated by Sinn Féin. And he wants Sinn Féin to stop the "rhetoric" and let "action take its place". He wants these structures of Éire Nua set up now in embryo, as it were.

"We must move from the stance of the knowing bystander", he says in a well-wrought phrase.

Very well, excellent. But Mr. Mac Eochagáin can't be a very regular reader of this column if he doesn't know that FREEMAN has said all that over and over again. FREEMAN has appealed for some one, Provincial Council to begin the work by appointing a committee to divide up its province into suitable districts, and then have New Ireland Councils elected for each district, and go on from that to regional councils.

FREEMAN has gone into all of this in very great detail until he is quite tired of doing so, and very disappointed at the lack of response. For he believes that this, and this alone, is the way forward.

Now I return to the FLB, the Breton liberation army. I had translated their policy statement to the end of the section headed "Political Analysis". It continues with a section on the "Necessity for a Military Front". Here it is.

In the necessary struggle against the imperialist, capitalist and bureaucratic-colonialist State, we regard the existence of a military Front as a witness. The present work of the FLB-ARB is not yet an armed people's struggle; it is one means among others of radicalising and accelerating among our people the revolutionary process of liberation which is already under way. If we believe that this recourse to violence is necessary, it is because we know from numerous examples drawn from the most recent history, that the imperialist and centralising French state will yield only to force.

We cannot any longer rely on legal and peaceful methods only, to break the economic-political power and the cultural dictatorship of the French state and its collaborators.

Our violence is not only a response to the daily violence which the French state, its administration, its police and its army exercise against our people by killing our language and culture; forcing our young people to emigrate

only to replace some of them with foreign immigrants (managers, officials, technicians, etc.); disfiguring our country by means of an abusive and authoritarian dismemberment; imposing nuclear pollution on us to the detriment of thousands of traditional employments (agriculture, fishing, oyster-farming); delivering over our small farmers and our businesses to national and multinational trusts; promoting the buying up of our soil by the army and by unscrupulous speculators, and of our coasts by ruthless developers.

We shall measure the violence which we will use at any given time against the violence which is being exercised against our people and ourselves. We shall not hold back from escalating it if this becomes necessary.

We shall attack, if necessary, apart from the political-military apparatus of the French state, all those who become active and conscious accomplices of the oppression of the Breton people. We shall always take, and always claim, responsibility for the actions of our comrades.

It is futile to believe that repression, however severe, will weaken our determination to fight for the liberty of Brittany and the total emancipation of the Breton people.

CONCLUSION. If we fight for the creation of an independent, socialist and classless Breton state, we are not assaulting the French people, but the oligarchies who dominate their state. To be against the exploitation to which these oligarchies subject our people implies, of necessity, in our case, the establishment of a Breton people's state.

The Breton people are not, on that account, any less solidary with all the peoples of the world in their confrontation with imperialism. Our objective is the total national, social and cultural liberation of Breton man from all forms of exploitation and oppression.

An imperialist oppressor state, however large or strong it may be, can avail nothing against the determination of people, however small that people may be. It is in the strength of this certainty that our struggle continues. We shall win because we are fighting for a just cause, with courage, self-denial and an unbreakable faith in final victory.

Oppressed people of Brittany, oppressed peoples of France and Europe, oppressed peoples of the world, young nations who have known the pitiless yoke of the colonisers and who have won back your liberty and your dignity, help us in our long fight!

EVET BREIZ!
EVIT AR CUZUL MEUR

I think this document has a lot to say to us. An Irishman can understand it through and through. Its manner of explaining things is crystal-clear. These Bretons know what they are about.

FREEMAN

SATURDAY NOV 13

BELFAST: John Patch a 36-year-old Catholic, employed by the Belfast Telegraph, was abducted by Pro British Elements as he walked along the Clefconell Rd., with a friend.

His abductors bundled him into a car and after severely beating him, they finally shot him dead.

He became the 53rd person to die in North Belfast this year.

Later 2 Catholic youths walking home only a few yards from where Mr. Patch was murdered, were lucky to escape with their lives when a man fired on them from a passing car. One youth was hit on the leg and the other in the arm.

A taxi-driver was shot when another car pulled up alongside him at a road junction on the Falls Road.

The driver received a bullet wound in the back.

In another murder attempt, the fourth of the night by Pro British Elements, 3 men, one armed, burst into an off-licence shop on the Antrim Road. They sprinkled petrol over the premises and on the owner, and then searched the letters "UVE" on his chest. They tried to bundle him in to a car but he managed to escape.

It was later discovered that a fire started in an upstairs room badly damaged stock.

The gang escaped in a Viva car and in the owner's car, which was later found in Castle Street car park, police said.

SUNDAY, NOV 14

DERRY: James Loughrey, from Gortgar Cottage, Greyfield, was shot three times in the stomach when he answered a knock at his front door last night. Mr. Loughrey slumped into the doorway badly wounded as the two gunmen shot from almost point blank range.

Mr. Loughrey was in the house at the time with two other children, rushed to the door and saw two youths running away. Mr. Loughrey was rushed to Altnagaveil Hospital where he

News from the North

underwent an emergency operation. His condition was said "to be critical".

The UFF, in a coded message to a Derry newspaper, claimed responsibility. They said it was a retaliation for the murder of UDR Captain Ronnie Bond.

MONDAY, NOV 15

LURGAN: The 4th member of the Ulster Defence Regiment to be killed within 10 days was named as George Lutton.

Along with 3 other members of the U.D.R. Lutton was manning a checkpoint at Church Place when a sniper opened fire, killing Lutton and wounding another member of the Patrol.

Lutton is the 66th member of the U.D.R. to be killed since the Regiment was formed in 1970.

BELFAST: A five lb. bomb attached to a tin of petrol caused extensive damage to a Beggs plumbers and Electrical store in Little Patrick St.

A warning was given and the area cleared.

TUESDAY, NOV 16

BELFAST: James Duffy a 50-year-old man was shot dead while delivering meat to a Falls Rd. butcher.

He and his helper had just got out of their van when he was shot in the head and died immediately.

Two men planted a bomb at a car showroom near Donegal Pass. A warning had been given and the area cleared. Extensive

damage was caused.

A British patrol came under sniper fire at Hallidays Rd.

DERRY: Snipers opened fire on a British checkpoint at Craigavon Bridge.

WEDNESDAY, NOV 17

BELFAST: James Campbell was shot as he walked along Ara Ave in the Ormeau Rd. He had been shot in the back and his condition was described as serious. It was the 2nd attempt on Mr. Campbell's life within 2 years.

NEWRY: Two men, believed to be carrying Armalites planted a bomb at the local Golf Club. A warning was given and the Club-house cleared. Severe structural damage was caused.

THURSDAY, NOV 18

DERRY: The 5th member of the UDR to be shot dead (and the 4th in Co. Derry) within two weeks was named as William Kydd.

He was shot dead as he worked on a building site at the Housing Executive site on Trench Road in the Waterside area of the city.

Two men walked up to where he was standing and opened fire.

LISBURN: Two men and a woman were injured in an attack on the Ballymac Road house. Three men, all armed, entered the bar and opened fire.

All the injured were shot in the legs.

Déile

(Ar leannuit
o ch. 2)

deilifis (Tuarscáil an Choiste ar Dhearcadh an Phobail).

Ghniomhaigh an rialtas ar an dá dhearcadh "diúltach" a nochtadh an pobal sa Tuarscáil chéanna ri.

- (a) riachtanas pas a fháil i nGaeilge a bhaint de scrúdúithe an stát; agus
- (b) riachtanas na Gaeilge mar choinníoll do thóstaíocht leis an stát a dhír ar.

Léiríonn na fíricí seo thíos easpa dhír-eachta na rialtais éagsla le blianta anuas faoi athreimiu na Gaeilge:

- (1) an títim tubaisteach il-ion sa scoileanna ina muintear gach ábhar nó roinnt ábhr ri Ghaeilge;
- (2) ganntanas na díreascleabhar Gaeilge; agus
- (3) an títim i ndaoirna Ghaeilgeoirí na Gaeltachta ó 64,275 i 1961 go 54,940 i 1971;
- (4) níos lú ná 3faoin gcéad d'am craolta na teilifíse bheith ar fáil do chláiracha Gaeilge.

BIDH IS go gceadaítear i a mhúineadh is beag bunscoil ina muintear an Ghaeilge sna Se Chontae. Muintear i dtrian de na meán-scoileanna deonacha, ach go háirithe, i ach ní thacaíonn ná ní spreagann córas oideachais na Se Chontae chun sin a dhéanamh ar bhealach ar bith, gur fíú trácht ar.

Níl aon chearta ag saoránach déileáil leis an státchóras i nGaeilge ná bheith ag súil le Gaeilge a fheiceáil ná a chlos go rialta (nó go mí-rialta, fíú) ar na meán chumarsáide.

Sa bhForógra Cearta, liostáiltear na cearta gur gá bheith aitheanta agus na gníomhartha gur gá bheith déanta chun go gcuirfeadh cúig bhunprionsabal an Forógra i bhfeidhm. Bainneann na cearta seo le gach gné den saol atá faoi dhícheall nó faoi thionchar an stáit.

Cheap Coiste Gnó an Chonartha An Fochóiste Cearta, i mbliana, chun feachtas ulleabhálach a stiúir ar cheist seo na gcearta. Chomh maith le foilsiú an Phórag Cearta is mian leis an bhFochóiste Cearta na cearta seo a gairm.

Tóis é bheith riachtachas go dtabharfar stádas feidhmúil dli do Ghaeilge i dtéanta le stádas bunreachtúil ní mór d'Acht Cearta na Gaeilge bheith i bhfeidhm sa tír. Tá Bílle Cearta do Ghaeilge á dhreachtadh ag Conradh na Gaeilge chug sin.

Tá Rannóg Cearta á fheidhmú in Ardoifig

an Chonartha anois. Déileáilann an Rannóg Cearta le gearán daoina a maslaíodh, nó gur cuireadh mór olltu ná deacrachtaí ina dtreo toisc go raibh siad ag baint úsáid sa Gaeilge agus iad ag déanamh gnó le reanna nó oifigí stáit.

Go dtí seo bhí an Rannóg Cearta ag plé leis na reanna seo leanas i draob gearán a bhífarthas: An Roinn Sláinte; Oifig Fólseacháin Rialtais; C.I.E.; An Roinn Leasa Shóisialaigh; Oifig an Ard-Chláirghora; An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt; Comhairle Chontae Corca; agus le Comhlucht Siúra Éireann.

LE FADA an lá tá an Conradh ag gearán le comhairlí áitúla, le reanna stáit agus leis an ngárda Síochána thosaigh bhuiltear ag feidhmú lonstair i Riarachán uimh. 164 de 1970 i dtaca le Síneacha Eolaís. De réir na hlonstaire sin.

(a) taispeánfar loagainmheacha i litreacha Rómhánacha i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla agus más ionann an litriú don loagainn sa dá theanga ní gá ach inscribhinn i nGaeilge a bheith ar an sin.

(b) I míleáirte a mbeidh sé cinnte le hordú faoi alt 2 den Acht Aíri agus Rúnaithe (Leasu), 1956 (Uimh. 21 de 1956) gur míleáirte Gaeilteacha é i nGaeilge amháin a bheith na loagainmheacha sa míleáirte sin.

Táimid ag foilsiú i bhfoirm bileoige, polasáí Choiste Gnó an Chonartha i leith comharthaí bóthar. Go dtí seo, tá na comhairlí áitúla seo leanas abhí ag sárú an dlí tar éis a shórtí nó a chur in iúl dúinn go bhfeidhmeofar an lonstair thuasluaite as aon amach - Comhairle Chontae na Mí; Comhairle Chontae Baile Atha Cliath; Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe; Comhairle baile éagsla i gContae Thioibraid Arann Theas; agus Comhairle Baile Dhroichead Átha.

Leanfar den phlé le comhairlí eile atá faoilloch sa ghnó seo. Ní mpor go dtuigfeadh lucht na gcomhairlí úd go bhfuil siad inbheirsh-chánaite má leanann siad de bheith ag caitheamh airgid an phobail ar nithe mí-dhleathacha. Cuirfean an dlí ar Chomhairle, más gá sin.

Mar bhealach chun cuidiú le daoine ar mian leo gnó a dhéanamh i nGaeilge eis an státchóras, éilíonn an Conradh gl bhfeachtar chug go mbeidh gach uile fhoirm agus cáipéis eolaís a chuireann roinn nó oifig ar bith den chóras riaracháin poiblí amach, ar fáil go dtéanach.

Labour delegation to Ireland

ONE in a series of report-back meetings on the National Labour Movement Delegation to Ireland took place recently in the North London area of Kentish Town.

The meeting was chaired by Ken Livingstone, prospective Labour parliamentary candidate for Hampstead, who was a sponsor of the Delegation and stated in his introduction that he had long been a supporter of the Troops Out Movement. He later said that he had been

adopted as Labour candidate after having made his views on Ireland (that troops should be withdrawn) absolutely clear and would continue to do so.

The two main speakers at the meeting, delegates John Hurley (ASTMS London West End - also of Eton and Slough Labour Party) and Brett Cunningham (T&CWU 1/281) concentrated on the repressive role of the British troops in Ireland, quoting actual incidents that the delegates had experienced,

such as the Army invasion of the Michael Sloan club on 19 September.

The discussion following the speeches turned into a debate on the best way of implementing the findings of the delegates and those present were urged to raise the question in their Trade Union and Labour Party branches, and to join in the work of the Troops Out Movement and other organisations working for the withdrawal of troops from Ireland.

Peace movement divides people

SINCE THE "attack" on the Falls "Peace" march the letters page of the Irish News has been filled with letters both highly emotional and wildly exaggerated

Some have admitted that those involved were mainly youngsters but most have claimed that the "attacks" were organised, directly by men with two-way radios etc.

A few had the gall to compare it with Burntoli. What really sickened people was that some writers claimed that they were safer on the Shankill.

Their safety was ensured then because they were seen as another anti-Provisional group; they also carried a notice saying "Sorry". Sorry for what? Subsequent statements by Mrs. Williams and Mr. McKeown destroyed the credibility of the "Peace" movement on the Shankill as well as alienating a large number of people in other areas and their abject apology did nothing to restore that credibility.

Indeed their pledge of support for the British Army and R.U.C. further damaged their reputation among Catholics.

I doubt if the "Peace" movement would march on the Shankill following the U.F.F.'s statement that they would be shot if they ventured into Loyalist areas again.

No such threat was ever made by the Provisionals. The next week which ended with the Shankill march also saw

the deaths of six innocent Catholics; a little girl shot dead by the British Army, two killed by a no-warning bomb in Keady, where, incidentally, a "peace" march was called off because local Orangemen refused to give way, and a young family of three burned to death by co-religionists of the Shankill marchers.

To claim that we were "safer" on the Shankill is to ignore the grim reality of the position of Catholics in the North especially in Belfast.

We are not safe in our beds at home; at work and travelling to and from it; on public transport, or on our fields and farms.

Certainly we are not safe in our own areas inside or outside church or in public houses.

Most certainly we are not even safe in the sanctuary of a hospital. The bitter tone of some of the letters ill-becomes people who claim to be working for peace and to be seeking reconciliation between all people.

By their vitriolic outbursts they are driving an even bigger wedge between people, who should be united firmly on the face of the sectarian killings.

By all means let us have peace, but let it be real peace based on justice. Any other

kind is neither desirable or welcome.

—L. Wilson, Belfast.

DO WE NEED A PEACE MOVEMENT?

THE peace at any price movement has got off to a blaze of publicity, without explaining one important point; and that is, what do we need a peace movement for?

Sure haven't we had the finest body of peace keepers here for years, indeed for centuries. I refer, of course, to the army of her Britannic Majesty Queen Elizabeth. Didn't Roy Mason mention them the other night on R.T.E. Surely they're the most fortunate country in the world. Didn't the bold Harold send us over the very cream of their peace keepers, the S.A.S. before he retired?

Apart from that, mighty body of men didn't the loyal citizens of N.E. Ulster rally round and throw in their updated version of the "B Men" and don't forget what are surely the finest body of peace keepers that have graced the land since the days of the old R.I.C. I refer of course to the R.U.C. and last but not least their underground confederates who from time to time pop up and shoot an old Fenian.

Sure hasn't it being proven that the R.U.C. are the finest bunch of torturers in Europe.

Just take a look at the peace keeping forces record. Now we won't go away back to Bloody Sunday we will just look at one or two more recent peace keeping roles.

* a man his wife and baby burned to death in Belfast.

* a man burned to death in Ballinacorney.

* a boy killed by a plastic bullet.

* a G.A.A. hall burned down by three British soldiers. Note it only took 3 men to carry out this important peace mission.

I could go on for ever. So I ask again do we need a peace movement, when we have all these fine men keeping the peace in N.E. Ulster?

—Michael Bell, Clifden, Co. Galway.

PROVOS NOT INVOLVED

IN RECENT ISSUES of the Evening Papers a letter headed "Provo's Defacing Ballinacorney" was published. We, in the local Cumann of Provisional Sinn Féin wish to refute these allegations as being utterly untrue and without foundation. Sinn Féin either in Ballinacorney or out of it had nothing

whatever to do with the painting of these slogans. We unreservedly condemned them when they first appeared and we still do.

If slogans appeared calling for Mr. C.C. O'Brien to be Crowned High King of Ireland, it did not follow that either CC OB or his supporters pointed them does it? Similarly, because the slogans are about the Provos it doesn't follow that Sinn Féin members wrote them.

It's Mr. O'Brien (Eamon) who's being infantile if he believes this. My family have lived in Ballinacorney for over nine years and far from being "invaders" or antipeople we have always worked for the betterment of people and for proper amenities as was promised us. Its both strange and a change to hear Mr. O'Brien praising the Ballinacorney Tenants Association. It wasn't because this year three of their meagre membership are on the committee? For the past couple of years when they weren't represented on the BETA they went out of their way to thwart the efforts of the tenants organisation in their work on this estate. When the boundary rate and the difference in the rating level angered the people of Ballinacorney last year the Socialist party issued leaflets giving people advice directly opposite to the BETA, who were pursuing the matter with N.A.T.O. Incidentally, the Socialist Party never did solve the rates issue!

Regarding their responsible attitude to posterage while engaging in Propaganda Exercises (how I love his choice of words), well Mr. O'Brien should know what's neat and attractive, since his party's posters are often put up over ours!

I say to you Mr. O'Brien that the Ballinacorney Branch of the Socialist Party (the only branch) do not echo the feelings of the people of Ballinacorney or speak for them. The people of Ballinacorney can speak up for themselves as they did at the oral hearing of the planning appeal when they protested at the proposed erection of more housing in an already grossly overcrowded estate. Almost every organisation on the estate and from surrounding areas were young, their party were conspicuous by their absence, I say the real reason you wrote that letter is as follows. Your party (not registered) plan to contest the next General Election and you have been nominated by them as candidate for the Ballinacorney area, and it's in your interest to keep yourself in the public eye seeing as you have nothing else going for you. As I can say is God help the people of Ballinacorney if you are elected. Your party

Mass Notice

DRUMM (Belfast and South Armagh): In Proud and Loving Memory of our Comrade Maire, ex Vice-President Sinn Féin, whose Month's Mind occurs on November 28th. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for the repose of her soul in St. Bridget's Church, Derrybeg, Newry, at 12 noon on Sunday, 28th November, 1976. Remembered with pride and gratitude by Newry and South Down Comhairle Ceantair, Sinn Féin. All available members are requested to attend the Mass.

This photograph was taken at Belleeks, South Armagh, when Maire Drumm (R.I.P.) Irish Republican and Orator, made her last public speech. "She strove to break the connection with England, the never-failing source of all our evils".

—Photo: South Armagh Correspondent.

SYMPATHY

DRUMM: The San Francisco branch of Northern Aid in California wish to express sincere sympathy to the husband and family of the late Maire Drumm.

May her brave soul rest in peace.

DRUMM: The members of the Sean Corcoran Sinn Féin Cumann Kiltimagh wish to extend their sincere sympathy to the husband and family of our dear friend, the late Maire Drumm. Mass was offered in the Church of the Holy Family, Kiltimagh on all souls day for the repose of her soul.

MANNIN

The Manx Board of Education has acceded to a demand from the pupils of a secondary school to be taught the Manx language. No less than sixty three students of Ballakermee secondary school supported the demand. The majority of them had learned the language in primary school and wished to continue its study. Most of the primary schools of the island are already teaching Manx but up to now it has not been included on the official curriculum of any second level School.

None of the regular teaching staff in the Ballakermee school are sufficiently proficient in the language to teach it but a number of members of Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh have volunteered to undertake this work. The school intends to devote three periods to Manx each week.

DRUMM: Maire Drumm murdered on Thursday, 28th October, 1976. Deeply regretted by the members of the Colm Keenan S.F. Cumann, Westmeath. Masses offered.

DRUMM: The Managora S.F. Cumann (Co. Wexford) wish to extend their deepest sympathy to the husband and family of the late Maire Ni Dhroma. Mairiath a cuimhne beo. Masses offered.

CLANCY: The members of the Dermot Crowley Cumann, Sinn Féin Corlough, Co. Cavan wish to extend their deepest sympathy to the wife and family of the late John Clancy of Glogher, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

To Brendan O'Dowd, Albany Prison, Isle of Wight

— From the members of the Republican Movement in North Kerry.

BUIOCHAS

The Sean Treacy Sinn Féin Cumann (Dublin South Central) wish to thank all members and supporters who travelled to Edentubur on Sunday, 10th November. We wish to apologise to those who were unable to travel as the bus was full.

BUIOCHAS

An Cumann Cabhrach wish to acknowledge the receipt of £18,000 from Devlin's shop, Clonmel, Navan, Co. Meath.

ENGAGEMENTS

Congratulations to Alfie McAvoy, Long Kesh and Noreen Varian, Cork on their recent engagement. Best of luck, — from a friend.

Maire Drumm - in memoriam

Chilling were the words that came to us at mid-night on October 28th. Maire dead! Incredible. Alas! too true. DEAD. But never a death in Ireland bore such promise of life — life for an ideal, life for her people.

Her monument is in our hearts. Her voice, sharp as blue steel, edged on the anvil of her people's oppression, echoes through the land, flinging a challenge to the foe, lashing the political frauds who feared her and spurring her down-trodden people to action.

Her anger, nurtured by the injustices of a privileged clique, struck terror into the enemies who brought the hope of new-found dignity to the deprived of her race. Her fearless presence on platform and parade, behind the coffins of her martyred comrades, or rallying her people at the barricades, is fixed forever in our racial memory.

Having once been touched by the magnetic presence of Maire Drumm, once angered with her anger, elevated by her vision and moved by her passion we are forever free, for vision and love, we have regained faith and hope and that ardour of love which guarantees a nation's life.

Maire Drumm is not dead!

She is alive in the thousands who marched with her to Milltown Cemetery. Alive in the boys and girls who with sad but measured step paid noble tribute at her passing; she is dangerously alive where young men and women, rebaptised in her Fenian faith, meet the foe in open contest. Her spirit walks the grim passages of prisons where patriots languish dispensing hope and tempering their proud resolve.

Maire Drumm will never die!

When people walk the pavements of Andersonstown, the Ardoyne, Turf Lodge, the Falls, Crossmaglen and her native Border lands Maire walks too. Wherever Freedom's torch burns fiercely she is there challenging, inspiring, guaranteeing ultimate victory and forging out of her people's thirst for justice the elements of peace.

Let us salute Maire Drumm

By renewing our resolve to be free; by treading her path; by sharpening our vision and by steadying our hand.

A Mhaire Ni Dhroma, is oth liom do bhas; Guim síochain dod'anam i dTeach De na nGrasí.

—Daire Donn.

Support for Political Status

Banned for seven years

HERE is Maire Sullivan's own account of the circumstances leading to her being banned from visiting her husband, Eamonn Sullivan in Port Laoise jail.

"On Friday the 12th November I visited my husband Eamonn Sullivan in Port Laoise Prison. He is at present serving a seven year sentence and has just completed a period of six weeks solitary confinement. During this period he was kept in complete isolation, had no contact with the other prisoners and he was not allowed letters or visits. My visit with him lasted no more than four minutes.

"There was a prison warder standing directly behind my husband, and another one seated to my right. The latter took notes of our conversation, which was about our three children. During this conversation the warder who was taking the notes interrupted us and told me to speak up which I did. I continued

to tell my husband about a tea voucher valued £1.25 which I had won. At this point the warder who was taking the notes stopped the visit. I asked him why he had done so and he alleged that I was speaking "secretly" which is a totally unfounded accusation. "The prisoner and his visitors have no physical contact. They are separated by a table with two wire grills rising from the table to ceiling and perspex in between the two grills. Under such visiting conditions as described above it is impossible to carry on private or secret conversations.

"On Tuesday, 16th November, I received a communication from the Deputy Governor, Port Laoise Prison informing me that no further visits would be allowed.



ALMOST 5,000 people, despite heavy rain, turned out in Belfast for a march in support of Political Status.

At the time of going to press over 16 men have joined Kiern Nugent in "H" Block, Long Kesh. All are refusing to wear the "Criminal clothes" which Roy Mason insists they wear.

Among the groups, including Sinn Féin, were delegates

from the Irish Republican Socialist Party, People's Democracy, Relatives Action Committee and the Red Republican Party.

Despite RUC and British Army harassment the meeting was heralded as a great success and one in the rose-tinted eyes of the Peace People.

Port Laoise Visiting Committee's whitewash

THE Annual Report on Prisons and Places of Detention for 1974 is a blatant attempt by the Department of Justice to con people.

In the report issued by the Visiting Committee of Port Laoise, a picture is painted of "humanitarian" Prison Officers who were to be congratulated for their "proficiency, discipline and dedication to duty".

Any semblance of impartiality by the Port Laoise Committee must be shattered by this report. An Phoblacht has published consistently news of the brutalities inflicted on the Republican Prisoners. Some have been to solicitors and have made Affidavits concerning their treatment. So who is lying? Is there something to hide? We have no doubt there is. Proof that this snivelling group of "Yes" men have something to hide in obvious by their reply to the Louth County Council, who had requested a meeting. No meeting will take place, instead the usual letter outlining all the "wonderful" conditions that according to the Visiting Committee operate in Port Laoise are tripped out.

Visiting Committee's reply

Fra Browne, Sinn Féin member of Louth County Council who has campaigned vigorously to highlight the conditions in Port Laoise has sent us the following copy of the Visiting Committee's answer to the Council's request.

Further to my letter of the 21.7.76 and your communication of the 8th instant I am to inform you that your request to meet the Visiting Committee of Port Laoise Prison was discussed at a special meeting held on the 14th instant.

Regarding your reference to complaints received by members of your Council I am to inform you that my Committee welcome your concern and wish to assure you that we as a Committee are ever mindful of our responsibilities in the discharge of the duties entrusted to us.

If the Committee considered that there were any abuses being practised in the prison it would not hesitate to bring them to the attention of the prison authorities, and, if necessary, to the Minister. In order to allay any fears that your members may have concerning conditions at Port Laoise Prison, we assure you that from our inspection of the prison each month and from the many unannounced visits made by individual members of my Committee during the year we are satisfied that at all times the offenders are treated humanely.

The quality of food served in the prison is of a very high standard, and there is, in addition, the excellent facility of a wholesale shop available for those who require extra comforts.

If any prisoner feels aggrieved about any matter it is open to him to complain to the Governor or to this Committee. Any complaint so made will always be considered and, if there are grounds for legitimate complaint, we have no doubts but that the cause for the complaint will be removed.

In all the circumstances the Committee considers that no useful purpose would be served by a meeting with members of your Council.

Bearing in mind the high security atmosphere of Port Laoise Prison, often aggravated by disturbances and escape attempts, the meeting concluded by recording the members admiration for the high standard of discipline that Prison Officers have displayed in their dealings with prisoners, during disturbances, and fully support the Governor in the administration of the Prison.

The letter, signed H.H.J. Gray, was addressed: St. Peter's Rectory, Mountrath, Co. Laois.

Fra Browne, in a letter to An Phoblacht, states:

I now take this opportunity to inform all Relatives who have received complaints from the Prisoners and in particular those complaints which are reoccurring that it is my intention to pass all of these complaints through the Louth County Council for the attention of the Visiting Committee.

As the Sinn Féin member of the said body, I am now convinced of the inhuman conditions which prevails in the Prison.

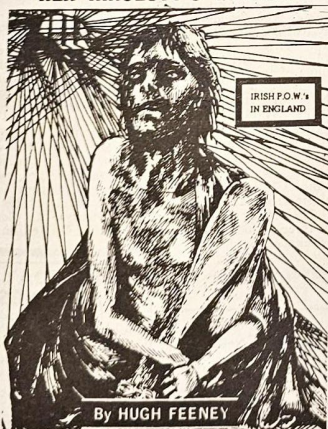
It is now evident that the Minister for Justice Patrick Cooney intervened between the deputation from the Louth County Council and the Visiting committee. Going back four months Louth County Council requested to the Governor of Port Laoise permission to visit and inspect conditions in the Prison, this was refused. Then the Council sought the assistance of the Visiting Committee, this was also refused.

"The sooner the complaints are documented the quicker they can be forwarded to the Visiting Committee. This way we will prove if they are sincere, or find out if Mr. Cooney has them on a string," he concluded.

We urge all our readers to support Fra Browne in his efforts.

In the care of...

HER MAJESTY'S PRISONS



By HUGH FEENEY

A NEW booklet, dedicated to the memories of Michael Gaughan, Frank Stagg, Noel Jenkinson and Maire Drumm, will be on sale from the Republican Press Centre next week. The booklet is the work of Republican prisoner-of-war, Hugh Feeny now serving a life sentence in Long Kesh. Hugh tells, in a moving and graphic account, of his experiences as a POW in an English jail prior to his repatriation. He gives a broad outline of conditions and explains that the booklet is a humble attempt to draw public attention to those conditions. All the art work in the booklet is by a comrade of Hughs in Long Kesh who prefers to work under the penname of "Flosie". The booklet, 'in the care of... HER MAJESTY'S PRISONS' may shock and sadden readers. One thing, however, which it will succeed in doing is educating people on the bestial conditions under which Irish revolutionary prisoners in English jails languish.

AVAILABLE FROM: The Craft Shop, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1 and 170A Falls Road, Belfast. Price 30p Postage 9p extra

REGRETTED DEATH

AT A recent meeting of Seamus Wynn Cumann Sinn Féin, Ballinamore a vote of sympathy was passed with the wife and family of the late John Glancy, Clogher. In his earlier years John was an active member of the Republican Movement and up to his death, remained a loyal supporter. His coffin was draped in the Tricolour and the removal of his remains, from Sligo Hospital, and his funeral was largely attended, a testimony to the esteem in which he was held.

To his wife, sons and daughter, the Republican Movement extends its sympathy. Go ndeana Dia trocaire ar an am.

Vote of sympathy

THE Seamus Wynn Cumann Sinn Féin, Ballinamore passed a vote of sympathy with the husband and family of the late Maire Drumm. Speaking on the vote of sympathy, John Joe McGil paid tribute to the late Mrs. Drumm, saying she was a person of unselfish, generous, unsparring disposition, who spent her life in the service of her fellow Republicans. Her dedicated attention to Republican Prisoners will always be remembered by those who experienced her generosity. Few people in the Republican Movement suffered more than Maire.