

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. Aire 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. Aire 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 Fein 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. Aire 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 Fein) 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 airtight 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 sunned 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 failed 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 Fein has made its gesture long ago, offering, to all reasonable intent and 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 they ever had under the Crown, even in the heydays of Stormont (provided they do not break up into left and right political wings which Sinn Fein 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 would not stand in the way of discussions with the people of the 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 Fein 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

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 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

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Rural slum schools

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 fionnagain 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 Doomsday.

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 we are suggesting — an important part of the Sinn Féin Eire 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 cumainn 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 BAINT, MAR
CHEALG, AG WHITAKER . . .

Débé

AR CHEANN des na nuachtain a fhiosfítear i mBaile Atha Cliath an tseachtain seo caite duirt an Dr. T.K. Whitaker, Bord na Gaeilge, mas fior, nach raibh aon mhaith a thailleadh in eolas ar Ghaeilge mar an dara teanga, toisc nach raibh i muintir na Gaeltachta ach an da faoi gcead de phobal an staitin.

Lion phobal na Gaeltachta agus sin amháin, is cíosú, an toimhsear ag Whitaker agus ag Bord na Gaeilge; ach d'abheann sin i goiste agus sin amháin, ba chóir go mbheada gá le heolais ar Ghaeilge mar an dara teanga agus i Gaeilge an teanga traidisiúnta, an teanga náisiúnta agus, de réu, bhunreacht an staitin, príomhtheangeolaí agus sin amháin.

Ach tá mios mó sin i goiste. Agus más fior do na figiúirí a foilsioadh ar na mallabhláta eolas maithí ar an Gaeilge ag thart ar 30 faoi gcead den phobal. Meáid beag an fhigúir sin ar staitisí — a foilsioch 10 mbliana ó shin, a chuir in iúl go raibh ag méadú i gcoinean ag lónaí an phobail a bhfuil Gaeilge mhaith ar a chumas.

Is feidir agus Whitaker a thuisceann i gcomhthéacs polaitiúil an status-quo agus a bhífull déanta ag an status-quo céanna le blianta beaga chun an teanga náisiúnta a dhispeagadh agus a chur in iúl.

Chuir sé díomh orm nach raibh freagra ar an toirt ag Whitaker go gConradh, ó Ghluaiseacht Chearta Sibhíla na Gaeltachta agus ón heagrais Ghaeilge uilig. Caithfheadh nach dtuigeann séad tábhairn ná bollscrábacha ná an bulle láidir in éadan mhiseach ar Gaeilge bhithe agus suarach Whitaker.

Achan seomra go mbidh daoine ag scríobh chugam faoi leáin agus faoi Ghaeilge Whitaker iad ag aitheann orm agus gaeilgeach an scóth é.

Is fíor go bhfuil togha na Gaeilge aige. Bhí togha na Gaeilge, freisin, ag Donald O'Conaill agus ag Aenghus na nAoí, roimhe, agus go leor tréatú eile.

Nach bhfuil Gaeilge mhaith ag Liam Mac Cosgair? Nach raibh Gaeilge mhaith ag Earnan MacBhuladh agus ag Risteard Ó Maolchatha?

Nach bhfuil Gaeilge mhaith ag roinnt den Chonstabalach Uladh agus ag roinnt fhaisneach na Sasanach fein?

Port an Bhrianaigh

IS MAITHÍ is eol do Whitaker nach ar mhuintir na Gaeltachta atá todhchaí ar teanga Gaeilge ag brath arach a mhuintir uilig in éineacht, fírinneadh theas, ach ní oireann sé do sin a admháil theas, ach ní eisítear aon bhrianaigh. B'fhearr B'fhearr leis port an Bhrianaigh. Nil aon dochar polaitiúil sa Ghaeilge mar chaitheamh aimsire. Leasánas móra tá sa Ghaeilge mar ábhar polaitiúil.

An feagra a chaitheadh pobal na Gaeilge a thabhairt do leithéidí Whitaker agus do lucht an aigid, lucht an status-quo, i goicim, agur ábhar polaitiúil an Ghaeilge, sa chaoi cheannána gur ábhar polaitiúil an Fhraincis i Cébec Cheanada; sa chaoi cheannána gur ábhar polaitiúil an Ollainas i dtír na Beilge; agur ábhar polaitiúil an Rómánsach san Eilbheis.

Ní haon mhionlach suarach 30 faoin gcead den phobal. Ní haon mhionlach suarach, ach oiread, i gcomhthéacs náisiúnta an domhain, agus áit na mionteangacháin sna tortha, pobal na Gaeltachta, agha oread.

Ach ná déantaí an dá phobal a dhéanú ó chéile. Biadh siad ar chéile ag muintir na Gaeltachta comhoibhriú go dtí lucht an pobal Ghaeilge na Galltachta agus vice versa. Sin an áit a bhfuil an neart polaitiúil.

Níl aon amhras ornaíoch agus go bhfuil imí ar an gcomhláthas faoin neart a lathairteach, mar gheall ar a bhfeachtas teifísí. Tá os cionn 20 duine ag déiúl aon cheandáil ar theifísí a joc le RTE go dtí go mbíodh clár sásúil Ghaeilge ag fáil dínní an aon scéalaibh.

Ar ndóigh, tuigim go math don Chomhrialta. Níl aon suim shuarach aigid i goiste. Chostóidh sé i bhfad níos mó ná sin chun na Gaeilgeoirí seo a chuireann. Chostóidh sé níos mó fós iad a chur isteach sa phrionsú agus a chothú ainn.

Bhíodh aon fheacáil agus go dtí go mbíodh clár sásúil Ghaeilge agus suarach Whitaker.

Chomh maith leis an ríil agus faoi Ghaeilge agus sin amháin, ba chóir go mbíodh clár sásúil Ghaeilge agus suarach Whitaker.

Achan seomra go mbidh daoine ag scríobh chugam faoi leáin agus faoi Ghaeilge Whitaker iad ag aitheann orm agus gaeilgeach an scóth é.

Is fíor go bhfuil togha na Gaeilge aige. Bhí togha na Gaeilge, freisin, ag Donald O'Conaill agus ag Aenghus na nAoí, roimhe, agus go leor tréatú eile.

Nach bhfuil Gaeilge mhaith ag roinnt den Chonstabalach Uladh agus ag roinnt fhaisneach na Sasanach fein?

Feachtas na teilifise

AN TSEACHTAIN seo caite scriobhas giota faoi fleachas nua Chonradh na Gaeilge ach níor éirigh leis spás a fhíil san eagrán deiridh. Mar sin féin, fuar an obair poiblachtach ar na nuachtáin agus eile.

Is é tá i goiste ag an gConradh eagair a chur ar an cheannas a thart faoin tairisí.

poiblí Ghaeilge. Geallann an Conradh go ndéanfaidh sé cás poiblí polaitiúil de gach clámsaín agus agóid a bhfuil bun leis, maidir le cearta teanga.

Guíomh ráth an obair. Níor chóir mórán eile a rá go dtí go bhfeachtas teifísí an toradh.

Tá neach eicínt ag inseach do go seachnóidí an ríailtás aon choinhlínt leis an gConradh faoi na clámsaín cheannána. Tá fárad agam. Fós féin níl éinne agus mar gheall ar a bhfeachtas teifísí. Tá os cionn 20 duine ag déiúl aon cheandáil ar theifísí a joc le RTE go dtí go mbíodh clár sásúil Ghaeilge ag fáil dínní an aon scéalaibh.

Ach seo a leanas, ar aon chaoi, an chaimpáis a fuaireann ag preas-aghallamh, Samhain 10. 1. Fóilimh inniu. Forógra Cearta don Ghaeilge agus ghlacáil leis ag Ardheach an Chomhrialta. Chun go n-athraítear é farraige teanga is éadaí go bhfeachtas thiar aí agus polasaí láidir athraíteimhle bithéidh a fhéidhmíú aige. Léiríonn an cíug bhun phriomhában den Fhorógra na nithe gur gá do stáit, a sheasann le hathréimíú na Ghaeilge, a dhéarbh.

Síad cùl stáit a 26 contae ó chuspóir an athraíteimhle agus ghlacáil leis an Ghaeilge ag stát Sé Chontae is cùis leis an bhfeachtas seo.

Bhíodh is

* go bhfuil líon na gcainteoirí Ghaeilge imithe in airde go 789, 429 (28.3 faoin gcead de chonaora na 26 Chontae Daonáireamh 1971);

* Go dtacáin dhá thriant den phobal le thairbheart agus le cur chun cinn na Ghaeilge (Tuarascáil le Chóiste um Thaighde ar Dhearcadh an Phobail i Taobh na Gaeilge);

* Gur doigh le 74 faoin gcead den phobal go dtí don stát bheithe ag tacú leis an gConradh a tri phostáin agha go hárthíte, a chur a fáil don mhuinntir na Gaeltachta (Tuarascáil an Chóiste ar Dhearcadh an Phobail);

* Go bhfuil 70 faoin gcead den phobal i bhfábhár scéalaíneánán láin Ghaelacha bheithe a soláthar ar éileamh (Tuarascáil an Chóiste ar Dhearcadh an Phobail);

* Go bhfuil 81 faoin gcead den phobal le tuairim gur cíos agus go leor leis an teangealbhaí i Ghaeilge (Tuarascáil an Chóiste ar Dhearcadh an Phobail);

* Gur doigh le 66 faoin gcead den phobal gur cíos agus go leor leis an teangealbhaí i Ghaeilge (Tuarascáil an Chóiste ar Dhearcadh an Phobail);

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Feachtas an Chonartha

SEO A LEANAS eolas ar fleachas chearta na Gaeilge tá fógraíthe ag Conradh na Gaeilge. Nil de locht agam, fírinneach ag aon aicé de réir dealraimh, go bhfuil dochas agus go gConradh níl fín gur bfeidir leis an stáin i mBaile Atha Cliath a thabhairt leis, trí loigthe agus tráiseas, in ionad páirt a ghlaicadh sa réabhlóid chultúrtha in éadan an impíríodhachas gach ait in Eirinn.

Athas seo a leanas, ar aon chaoi, an chaimpáis a fuaireann ag preas-aghallamh, Samhain 10.

1. Fóilimh inniu. Forógra Cearta don Ghaeilge agus ghlacáil leis ag Ardheach an Chomhrialta. Chun go n-athraítear é farraige teanga is éadaí go bhfeachtas thiar aí agus polasaí láidir athraíteimhle bithéidh a fhéidhmíú aige. Léiríonn an cíug bhun phriomhában den Fhorógra na nithe gur gá do stáit, a sheasann le hathréimíú na Ghaeilge, a dhéarbh.

2. Bhíodh is

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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.

Tomás Ó Monacháin 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 Ó 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 for 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 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....

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

More part-timers who cannot count them

Or cannot be accounted for

Are rent collectors

Taxing Ireland

With another seven years bad luck!

— Madra Rua.

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

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 garda 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 what a furore 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-liebers of Leinster House who see the hand of Albion in the packing mixture.

Jackeen Lynch, true to form, forgot that a Federal solution is a Sinn Fein copyright and embraced that view. Someone, sometime, must have given him a copy of "Eire 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 Fein 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 SDLP, and which has now been promoted openly by Fianna Fail, as a means to end the strife in this island.

Sinn Fein 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 the 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 pre-requisite 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.
Comhairleacháint 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

More part-timers who cannot count them

Or cannot be accounted for

Are rent collectors

Taxing Ireland

With another seven years bad luck!

— Madra Rua.

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.

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 UUC 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 struggle of 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 Fein when it was announced that he would be entering what passes as politics in the Six Occupied Counties, is a political opportunist and such as this 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 UUC 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 legitimate right 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 Irish affairs. The fallacy of the philosophy of the UUUC in this respect is daily becoming more

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; Treasurer, 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 Cunneen; Vice-Chairman, Gary Scollard; Secretary, Phil O'Sullivan; Treasurer, Michael Horgan; P.R.O., Joe Touhy.

Anybody interested in joining Sinn Fein 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, Ruairí 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 Fail 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 internment 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 Fail 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 Fail policy. Will 1977 find Mr. Lynch advocating a Democratic Socialist Republic for all Ireland? We doubt it."

"Fianna Fail 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 Fail 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 interim swoops in the Six Counties? The plain answer is that Fianna Fail 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 Facist-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 Fail approve, or whether they do not."

"Whether they not 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 Ruairí O Bradaigh S.F. President and members of the Ardcomhairle at the A.G.M.

FRONT ROW (from left): Miss Mai Daly (Hon. President), Walter Lynch, Ruairí 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 Munhan), Tom Devaney (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 Roibéarach Inse Caorú, 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 Caorú.

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

Delegates to An Comhairle Ceolige — Chairman and Secretary, Mr. John Jordan was unanimously elected President.

A minute's silence was observed in memory of Máire Cháinín.

McCabe/Quigley
"Ath Cliath"

North Dublin

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

Chairman, Michael MacComara; Vice-chairman, Mr. MacGoveran; Secretary, Mairead Gallagher; Treasurer, Tom O'Donovan; Organiser, Sean Gallagher; P.R.O., Máire Léddy; 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, Gorey; Vice-chairman, Mr. Nicholas O'Reilly, New Ross; secretary, Mr. Phil Kelly, Wexford; Treasurer, Mr. Edward O'Connor, Enniscorthy; Education Officer, Mr. P. Walsh, Ballybrayz, New Ross; Organiser, Liam O'Cúigear, Moine-na-Gaor; P.R.O. Sean O'Dubhghaill, U.C., Enniscorthy.

Delegates to An Comhairle Ceolige — Chairman and Secretary, Mr. John Jordan was unanimously elected President.

A minute's silence was observed in memory of Máire Cháinín.

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 Tunney; 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 Máire Ni Dhroma. The Cumann wish to extend their deepest sympathy to her bereaved family.

Buncrana

At the A.G.M. of the McDaid/Gaughan S.F. Cumann, Buncrana the following officers were elected: Chairman, E. Fullerton, Vice-chairman, J. Quinn, Secretary, J. McMenamin, Treasurers, G. Farrell & 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 friends went on one of his regular rampages in the Springfield Hill (Farrane) 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 Gardaí is seen in the area is when they come to harm 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: Ph! 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 Dioláu, 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 Cartaigh
Secretary.

Roscommon support for An Cumann Cabhrach

ROSCOMMON Comhairle Ceantair Sinn Féin, is to launch a massive fund-raising drive to assist the dependents 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

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 the Fitzwilliams, Earls of Pembroke, who actually 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 other 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 west roads and districts with their semi-romantic titles like 'Carrickfergus' or 'Ballymena' though, 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 Mullaghy Lane and Tobermoro Road, together with 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 Tobermead! ask you! With the rash of 'Meath' and 'Fitzgerald' estates, gave Newgate, Strewsbury, Harolds, and such like that are now being heaped upon us by the salesmen of new houses we shall soon loose 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.

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.

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

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 British 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.

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 plot.

Among those present were Mrs. Joe Foran (Moencoin), Siofan O Maolala (Kilkenny), Willie Murphy (Hugginstown) and Risteard de Búrca (Calainn). Members of the officer board 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 Doherty, Eamonn Lawlor and Gerard Dooley. 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.

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 after 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.P.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 Padraig Mac Eochagain 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 Eochagain 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 Fein. And he wants Sinn Fein to stop the "rhetoric" and let "action take its place". He wants these structures of Eire 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 Eochagain 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 nothing but 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 employees (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 arms and by unscrupulous speculators; and of our coasts by rootless 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 commandos.

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 oligarchs who dominate their state. To be against the exploitation to which these oligarchs 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 the 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!

BEVET BREIZH

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

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 Hammersmith, 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&GWWU 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.

SATURDAY NOV 13

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 Ronne Bond.

damage was caused.

A British patrol came under sniper fire at Hilliards 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 Clubhouse cleared. Severe structural damage was caused.

THURSDAY, NOV. 18

DERRY: The 5th member of the UDR, Luton, was shot at a checkpoint at Church Place when a sniper opened fire, killing Luton and wounding another member of the Patrol.

Luton is the 66th member of the UDR, 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.

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 UDR, Luton was manning a checkpoint at Church Place when a sniper opened fire, killing Luton and wounding another member of the Patrol.

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 Loughey, from Gortgar Cottages, Greysteel, was shot three times in the stomach when he answered a knock at his front door last night.

Mr. Loughey stumbled into the doorway badly wounded as the two gunmen shot from almost point blank range.

His wife who was in the house at the time with their two children, rushed to the door and saw two youths running away. Mr. Loughey was rushed to Altanaglin Hospital where he

(Ar leininte o lch. 2)

Debte

deitilifis (Tuarascáil an Choiste ar Dhearcadh an Phobail).

Ghinniúigh an rialtas ar an dá dhéarcadh "diúltach" a nochtáigh an pobal sa Tuarascáil chéanna trí:

(a) riachtanas pas a fháil a bhaint le scridúthe an stáit; agus

(b) riachtanas na Gaeilge mar chionnóil d'fhoistaocht leis an státh a chur ar ceal.

Léiriomh na firicí seo thios easca dairíreachta na rialtas éagsúil a bhílanta anuas faiorathrúim na Gaeilge:

(1) an titim tubaisteach i lón na scóileanna ina muintear gach ábhar no roinnt ábhair tri Ghaeilge;

(2) ganntas na dtéacsleabhar Gaeilge;

(3) an titim i ndaonála Ghaeilgeoiri na Gaeilteachta ó 64,275 i 1961 go 54,940 i 1971;

(4) níos lú ná 3faoin gcéad d'am craolata na fóilseach bheith ar fáil do chláracha Gaeilge.

BIODH IS go gceadaitear i a mhúineadh is beag buncsóil ina muintear an Ghaeilge sna Se Chontae. Míntear i dtír de na mean-scoileanna deonacha, ach go hárthain, i ach tháithíonna ná ní spreagann cónas oideachais na Se Chontae chun sin a dhéanamh ar bhealach ar bith gur fúi trácht air.

Nil aon cheart ag saoránach déileáil leis an státhóraí a nGaeilge ná bheith ag suil le Gaeilge a theicneal ná a chlos go rialta (nó go m-fírlaita), fíú ar ná meaná chumharsa.

Sa bhForógra Cearta, liostaítear na cearta gur gá bheith antheanta agus na gniomhartha gur gá bheith déanta chun go guairfeach cuig bhunphrionsabhal an Fhorógra i bhfeidhm. Baineann na cearta seo le gach gné den saol atá fóidilse ná faoi thionchar an stáit.

Cheap Coiste Gnó an Chonartha An Fochóiste Cearta, i mbliana, chun feachtas uileghabháil a stíriú ar cheist seo na gcearta. Chomh maith leis an Fhorógra Cearta is mian leis an bhFochóiste Cearta a níse leas an fhógraí.

Toiseach is bheith riachtanach go dtarbhfar stáds feidhmíodh díl an Ghaeilge i déantána le stáds bunreachtíil ní mór d'Acht Cearta na Gaeilge bheith i bhfeidhm sa tír. Tá Bille Cearta don Ghaeilge a dhíreachadh ag Conradh na Gaeilge chuirge sin.

Tá Rannóga Cearta á feidhmíodh in Ardóifig

an Chonartha anois. Díleállán an Rannóga Cearta le gearán daóine a maslaíodh, ná gur cuireadh soillt orthu ná deacrachtáin a dtroic gois agaibh siad ag baint úsáid as Gaeilge agus iad ag déanamh gní le réanna noifig.

Go dtí seo bhí an Rannóga Cearta ag plé leis an reanna seo leasas i dtaoibh gearán a bhíarthas: An Roinn Sláinte; Oifig Foileacháin Rialtais, C.I.E.; An Roinn Leasa Ríoltais; Oifig an Ard-Chláircheasóra; An Roinn Dil agus Cirt; Comhairle Chontae Corcaí; agus le Comhairle Slíra Eireann.

LE FADA an lá tá an Conradh ag gearán le comhairle diúltála, le reanna stáit agus leis an Gárdá. Siocána toisceach nach bhfeidhm ag feidhmíon lonstraim Riarrachán umh. 164 de 1971 i dtáca le Chonartha Eolais. De réir na hlonstraim sin:

(a) . . . taispeánfar logainmneacha i litreacha Rómánaise i nGaeilge agus i mbéarla agus más ionann an litriú don logainm agus da theanga ní gach inscribhíomh i nGaeilge a bheith ar ceal.

(b) I limistéar a mbeidh sé cintte le hordú failt a 2 den Acht Airí agus Rúnáit (Leasá), 1956 (Uimh. 21 de 1956) gur limistéar Gaeltachta é i nGaeilge amháin a bheith i nlogainmneacha sa limistéar sin.

Táimid ag foilsí i bhfoirm billeoige, polasaí Chonartha Gnó an Chonartha i leith comhairfáis borthar. Go dtí seo, tá an comhairle diúltála se leasas abhí ag sárú an díl tra éis a scórú ná a chur in iúl díum go bhfeidhmfeoar an lonstraim thusaúthaithe as se amach - Comhairle Chontae na Mí; Comhairle Chontae na Bhláthe; Comhairle Chathair Cliath; Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe; Comhairle Bhláth éagsúil i gContae Thiobraid Árann Theas; agus Comhairle Bhláth Dhothraich Atha.

Leanfar den phile le comhairle eile atá failloch ag gnó seo. Ní gur do dtuigfeadh lucht na gcomhairfáis iúd go bhfuil siad inbriathais chánaithe mán leannán siad de bheath ag caithneadh aigirid ag phobal ar nithe mhdileachta. Cuirfear an díl ar Chomhairle, máithéanach, agus máthair.

Mar bhealach chun cuidiú le doaíne ar mian chórás, éilíonn an Conradh ghl bfeidh agus chuirfeadh aigirid ag phobal ar nithe mhdileachta. Cuirfear an díl ar Chomhairle, máthair, agus máthair.

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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 warden 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 warden 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 warden 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.

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 Feeney, 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 Hugh in Long Kesh, who prefers to work under the penname of 'Flossie'. 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



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 Fein, were delegates

from the Irish Republican Socialist Party, People's Democracy, Relates 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".

Prisoners are put into solitary confinement for the pettiest of reasons. They and their families are being punished by depriving them of visits which, in effect, is a form of mental cruelty and stress.

— Maire Sullivan.

REGRETTED DEATH

AT a recent meeting of Seamus Wrynn Cumann Sinn Fein, 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 ndeanas Dia trocaire ar a anam.

Vote of sympathy

THE Seamus Wrynn Cumann Sinn Fein, Ballinamore passed a vote of sympathy with the husband and family of the late Maire Drumm. Speaking on the vote of sympathy, John Joe McGirr paid tribute to the late Mrs. Drumm, saying she was a person of unselfish, generous, unsparing 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.

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 Fein member of the said body, I am now convinced of the inhuman conditions which prevail 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.