

№ 43

FREE CITIZEN

REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE POSTOFFICE
NEWSPAPER OF THE
PEOPLES DEMOCRACY

PRICE 3^D

WEEKLY FRI. 31 JUL 1970

THE ORANGE ORDER AND THE BAN

by mike farrell

After 90 years of using Orangeism for their own advantage the Unionists and their British masters have cast it on the rubbish-heap. The Apprentice Boys march has been banned. Socialists should shed no tears for the poisonous garbage of sectarianism. But the repression against the left which accompanies the ban must be fought strenuously. It is being used as a sop to the Unionists' followers.

Nearly 100 years ago Northern landlords and industrialists began to join the Orange Order. They needed an ally in their fight against Home Rule. Since then they have used Orangeism and its off-shoots, the Blackmen and the 'Prentice Boys, to ingratiate themselves with the Protestant workers and small farmers. Their real motive was to protect the profits of the exploiters.

But to-day local industries are almost all taken over by British monopolies and British banks and Stormont is more clearly than ever the puppet of Westminster. And Westminster doesn't want the Orange Order anymore. The 'Free State in the 26 counties has become increasingly popular with British exploiters and they find their Orange state in the North more and more of an embarrassment. Besides, the Orangemen are expensive. It took 22,000 troops, police and U.D.R. men and £1,000,000 to protect - or control - them on the 13th July. It also involved a preliminary and well planned attack on the Falls Road which killed 3 men and dealt another blow to the Northern economy.

So Heath and Maudling decided to jettison the Apprentice Boys. There were a few sacrificial offerings to appease Orange opinion. The ban was for 6 months, outlawing protest by the opposition as well. There was to be more repression - compulsory 6 month jail sentences for trivial offences, a new prison and a supply of prisoners to fill it, and rubber bullets and other anti-riot weapons for the army. But the ban was on.

They would not spend another

£1,000,000 shepherding a lot of Orange bigots on their triumphal march through Derry and risk another holocaust and the toppling of their man in Dublin - Jack Lynch.

The dim-witted Chichester-Clark was told to make the announcement. And so he did - a few hours after assuring the 'Prentice Boys that they could go ahead. Having done his master's bidding he slunk off to the Continent to hid his shame.

The Unionists and their British bosses have treated the 'Prentice Boys and the Blackmen like dirt. But socialists should have no pity for these reactionary institutions. Orangeism has been used for generations to divide the working-class. In many cases it is the actual instrument of religious discrimination - recruitment to firms through the Orange Lodges keeps out Catholics and 'disloyal' Protestants. The Orange Order has always been virulently anti-socialist and anti-working class. As far back as 1894 when Keir Hardie spoke at a meeting in the Ormeau Park it was broken up by the Orangemen while, throughout the 20's and 30's, Orange bands and lambeg drummers used to break up Labour Party meetings.

The ruling class revived this bigoted Frankenstein for their own purposes in the 1880's. Now it has become an embarrassment to them they are determined to wipe it out. It is no concern of socialists how they deal with their own creation, though the left must fight any attempt to use the opposition as a scapegoat to appease the Orangemen's wrath.

Some people think they can win the support of Protestant workers by supporting the 'Prentice Boys against the Government. They would win more by joining an Orange Lodge. But the mass of Protestant workers will only be won to socialism over the carcass of the Orange Order. It is the job of socialists, not to defend these bigoted organisations, but to point out to



CLARK - HIS MASTERS' VOICE

the workers who have misguidedly formed them, the way they have been cynically used by the landlords and employers.

There should be no talk of the 'Prentice Boys 'rights' to march. There is no such thing as an absolute 'right' to march. When Mosley and his Fascists tried to march through the Jewish quarter of East London in 1936 they were beaten back by socialists, communists and Jews. Orange marches in N. Ireland should not be attacked but neither should socialists spring to their defence when the Government turn on them.

The ban has called the bluff of the Unionist right-wing. There has been much sound and fury but very little action. Ivan Foster cut a sorry figure at Kilskeery with his token walk; and his boss, Paisley, has been unnaturally silent. The Blackmen and the 'Prentice Boys have talked big, but have not committed themselves to marching. The next move is theirs. If they accept this ban their followers will be badly disillusioned.

Either way the logic of economics dictates a break between the Unionists and the Orange Order. The ban is the first step towards that break. But the Orange Order is what has kept Protestant workers loyal to their Unionist employer, and the Protestant farmers loyal to the Unionist squire. If that link is broken the result will be the alienation of the Protestant masses from the ruling class and from British imperialism. Then, and only then, can the working-class be united.



JAMES ROCHE LEAVING BOW ST COURT IN A POLICE VAN

HOW DID YOUSE LIKE IT ?

MAN OF THE WEEK WAS UNDOUBTEDLY JAMES ANTHONY ROCHE. AS HE THREW THE TWO CANNISTERS OF CS INTO THE COMMONS HE SAID, "HOW DO YOU LIKE IT - YE BASTARDS". WE ECHO THESE SENTIMENTS. THE WORKING CLASS PEOPLE OF ULSTER, REGARDLESS OF CREED OR AGE HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO THIS POISONOUS FILTH FOR TOO LONG. IT'S ABOUT TIME THE POMPOUS M.P.'S WHO HAVE BEEN SNIVELLING ABOUT IT BEING HARMLESS FOUND OUT THE TRUTH. MAYBE THEY'D EVEN LIKE TO EXPERIENCE RUBBER BULLETS.

MEETINGS

BELFAST PD MEETING
EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT 8pm
34, BERRY STREET
(off Royal Avenue)

ARMACH PD MEETING
EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT
Pipers' Club (Ogle St.)

NEWRY PD MEETING
RING NEWRY 2682

FERRANAGH PD
For details ask your local 'Free Citizen' seller.

PORTGLENONE PD
For details ask your local 'Free Citizen' seller.

STICKERS



Self-adhesive stickers are now on sale to raise money for the P.D. Legal Defence Fund. There are three different designs, shown above. They are sold in sheets of 12 at 1/- per sheet (4 of each design). The stickers measure 1" x 2" each, and may be obtained from 88 Ladybrook Park, Belfast. Payment up to 3/- can be in the form of 4d. stamps.

APPEAL

To all our readers. We know that at this holiday time money is short, but this week's good cause will, we are sure, be supported by all. LAST WEEK ONE OF THE MOST DASTARDLY CRIMES COMMITTED WITHIN HUMAN MEMORY OCCURRED. Its victims were old, infirm and in many cases mentally retarded. But did this fact deter the evil man who perpetrated this outrage? No! JAMES ANTHONY ROCHE, a man who has the cheek to be unemployed, threw no fewer TWO cannisters of the noxious CS gas into the mother of parliaments, thereby severely inconveniencing a large number of geriatrics. An eyewitness has told us of the great distress evinced by no lesser person than the speaker of the House himself who was carried out choking and puking all over the sacred floor.

Needless to say, nothing less than the death penalty will do for the malefactor Roche - indeed some righteous citizens have suggested that he be hanged and quartered as well. But what of the innocent victims?

In order to provide aid for these poor folk, (remember, some of them have to rely on their pittance of £3,500-a-year) the P.D. will be sending collecting boxes around the Bogside, Shankill, Falls, Ardoyne and Ballymurphy areas so that the inhabitants can contribute. It has been rumoured that these areas have recently had some first hand experience of 'tear smoke' (as it is called in N.I. in order not to confuse it with 'gas bombs' which are used in the House of Commons) and will therefore be all the more sympathetic. The late Home Secretary James Callaghan said this gas would only be used against "dangerous criminals and lunatics", but was that any need for Roche to take him at his word? Fair play for dangerous criminals, lunatics, and M.P.'s! And what about discrimination? Hasn't our own beloved Stormont got its own dangerous criminals and lunatics? GIVE GENEROUSLY!

A Soldier Writes

Musgrave Park Hospital.
20-7-70.

Dear Sir,

As a regular reader of your newspaper I was most distressed to read the article by Mike Farrell in your edition dated 17-7-70. I would like to set a few points straight however and challenge his source of information. I have served with the British Army in all the places mentioned including the Falls and Shankill. However, I will only refer to one incident. On the 26th June 1967 our patrol was ambushed in Crater by the local Civil Police and 17 men died and 21 wounded, all British. There were no Arab casualties. Reprisals were not taken and less than one month later we were carrying out patrols with the very people who instigated the attack. I could quote many incidents, names and dates from my 15 years service but it would take a book to do it. I am at present recovering from wounds inflicted in recent troubles in the city whilst trying to protect an innocent passerby from a brutal and cowardly attack by people of his own religion.

Before you dismiss me as a raving English lunatic I might add that I am one of 5 "Free Staters" serving with this unit representing Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Tipperary and myself from Galway. I cannot for obvious reasons supply my name and address but I hope that you will read this letter with the same open mind in which it was written. In the meantime I look forward to your next publication.

I am Sir,

Yours sincerely
Serving Soldier.

.... And We Reply

Dear Serving Soldier,

We should not have to remind you that you are a trained killer, and that your duty in battle is to kill the enemy. If in the engagement you describe, there were 17 British killed and no Arabs, it is only because your unit were less efficient at its job than it was supposed to be.

You can hardly expect us to burst into tears because an organised group of killers failed to do what they were supposed to.

And, on the question of the number of Arabs killed, you cannot pretend that one incident was typical of the whole campaign.

The problem really boils down to this: what were you, a lad from Galway, in the West of Ireland doing patrolling the streets of Aden - a city you probably had never even heard of before you joined the British Army?

Let us put it another way: suppose that a group of Arab warriors started 'patrolling' the streets of Galway scimitars at the ready, what would your feelings be? Then why should Arabs feel any differently about British troops patrolling their streets. The only reason you were

in Aden was to prop up a lot of semi-feudal Sheikdoms so that British 'investments' east of Suez would be safe; the function of the British Army has always been a political one: the support of colonial or reactionary regimes such as in Greece, Aden, Malaya, Kenya and Cyprus.

Cyprus is a case with many analogies to Ulster. There soldiers were killed and retaliated. You should read 'Legacy of Strife' a Penguin Special written by a wishy washy English liberal Charles Foley. He describes methods of 'interrogation' used by the British Army - 'you might be beaten on the stomach with a flat-board, you might have your testicles twisted, you might be half-suffocated with a wet cloth which forced you to drink with every breath you took, you might have a steel band tightened round your head - no more than six people died under interrogation during the whole emergency'. Even the 'Daily Express' casually noted that the only thing that hadn't been tried was electric shock treatment.

And yet what were E.O.K.A., the Greek Cypriot Terrorists fighting for. They were fighting for freedom from colonial rule. Four-fifths of the population supported them - and here is another point very relevant to Ulster. The British exploited divisions between Turks and Greeks on the island.

They turned the Turks into a privileged minority - and when locals deserted the police force recruited Turks. The fruits of this policy have been seen since independence with U.N. troops having to intervene to prevent sectarian warfare.

For a similar reason in N.Ireland you can hardly expect us to clap you on the back for intervening in a quarrel which was Britain's doing in the first place. British money and British guns were used to stir up and inflame sectarianism in Ulster from the time Randolph Churchill decided to "Play the Orange Card".

To serve the interests of their fellow-capitalists in N.E.Ireland, British Tories cynically defended rabid Orange sectarianism, and have done so consistently over the past 50 years.

You are here to 'protect the security of the (6-county) state'. That state's *raison d'être* is sectarianism. Even this year its government ministers took part in sectarian Orange parades - which your army were used to protect, and which is the main reason you were used to smash the people of the lower Falls.

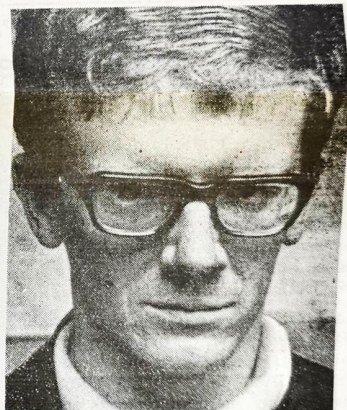
The People's Democracy's aim is the establishment of a 32 county Worker's Republic. To do that will involve the sweeping away of the Orange 6 County Statelet and its green-tory twin in the South. As that struggle develops those who are here to 'preserve the security of the (6 county and 26 county) states' will be seen for what they are - agents of Imperialism. *Vinceremos,*
Cyril Toman and John Gray.

swim-protest

As a further step in the campaign to have Belfast's Swimming Baths open on Sundays the Belfast P.D. picketed two of the city's pools on Sunday last. Members were joined in Templemore Avenue by some French and Austrian students for the hour long demonstration, before moving to the Falls Road. There the picket was joined by about 50 local people, including several members of the Otter Swimming Club, and as a result it was agreed to extend by an hour what had been planned as a one hour picket. It is intended to picket another two baths this Sunday, Ormeau Avenue from 11 am until noon and The Grove from noon until one. Several Swimming Clubs have agreed to attend, and of course, anyone else is welcome. Future activity includes another picket of the Ormeau Baths from 2pm until 4pm on Saturday 8th August, with a 2 hour picket at the Falls Baths starting at noon the next day.

We also plan to lobby the special Committee which the Corporation has set up to examine the question.

BOWES EGAN CHARGED



Bowes Egan, P.D. candidate for Enniskillen in the last election, has been arrested and charged in connection with the C.S. gas incident in the House of Commons.

The government have been trying to get Egan on any score for many a long month now. His book 'Burnt-tollet' exposed the behavior of the Unionist Government - they could never answer it. Now they hope to silence him.

A final comment on the House of Commons gassing from an unlikely source Lord Wells-Pestell of Combs speaking at a Modern Churchmen's Union Congress in Abingdon (Berkshire) said, "can there not be a right to violence against injustice - it might be necessary for C.S. gas to be tossed into the House of Commons". Another delegate described him as "loathsome and contemptible" - most peers are, but in this case one lord is on the right side.

CURFEW CASE

On July 4th 114 people in the Lower Falls area were arrested for 'curfew breaking'. As our legal correspondent pointed out in Free Citizen No. 40, the curfew could only be imposed by using Special Powers act, and in court the prosecutor (known locally as 'the clown Carswell') admitted that in fact people were being charged under 'Section 7 of the Criminal Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (N.I.) 1968'. Before you rush for your law books, what this says is that "any person who assaults, resists, obstructs or impedes any constable in the due execution of his duty or any person acting in aid of such constable. . . . shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine or up to 2 years".

Now, as we pointed out before, no constables were involved, and no offences committed because there was no legal curfew! This week the courts were very embarrassed and had to acquit Tony Geraghty of the 'Sunday Times' of "impeding members of the armed forces in the due execution of their duty" (Section 7 makes no mention of soldiers at all, by the way).

The soldier who is alleged to have arrested him didn't even

know if he had been arrested in the area bounded by the 'curfew'. It was hoped that this would act as a test case and that the other 113 people would also be acquitted but our old friend Albert Walmsley (world authority on spitting and porcine matters) got frightened.

As a result Albert ruled that Geraghty, a well known journalist, was innocent because he had been arrested outside the so-called curfew area. Then instead of hearing the next case, they were all put off and so probably won't be heard until September. Thus the courts keep phoney charges hanging over 113 innocent people - but what can you expect from a police state.

Footnote: We hear that C.S. Drury, who has, it is rumoured, been 'investigating' the murder of Samuel Devenny by the R.U.C. will be presenting his report in 'about two months', although, as yet, he hasn't been able to interview all the police concerned. As printed earlier, we have named 4 officers who might be able to 'help the police with their inquiries'. We also invited these gentlemen to sue us. As yet, we haven't seen the colour of their writs.

MRS. CLARK'S DIARY or 'i'm worried about jim'

PARIS. Last night James and I visited the Folies Bergeres and viewed a most artistic performance, so tasteful. James watched on impassively, his strong face stony as ever. I'm worried about Jim. He later told me that he had been working out one of his brilliant ideas

(all work and no play is what makes Jim a dull boy) for maintaining the peace in our strife-torn province. 'Strip Clubs, that'll keep the peasants happy, no time to think about reforms or marches.) A wonderful vision except for Jack Lewis. The old spoil-sport.

MONTE CARLO. James seemed very dejected for a while. Last night after losing all that money on the roulette tables. But soon he was his old self again, saying brightly, 'Ah well, the housing grant will cover it'.

BERLIN (went of course). We had a wonderful time seeing the sights of this beautiful city. James had another of his brilliant ideas (James is such a clever boy really, though you wouldn't think it, what with the way he talks on the tele and all. We have a great laugh at the silly things he says).

'We'll build a wall round the estate', he said. 'Man it with B men night and day. Just in case the peasants get any funny ideas.'

ROME. What a distressing evening! James got drunk and forgot he wasn't a bigoted orangeman anymore. He ran round the streets

shouting, 'Kick the pope' and 'burn the bastards out!'.

The police were very nice about it all. James sat for ages swapping brilliant ideas with their Constable (or whatever he's called in wop talk). Simply everyone is having trouble with their proles these days, even that nice old general in Madrid who reminded me so much of Basil. It must be an international anarchist plot. That's what James says, and I agree, though I don't know what it means. He's the clever one.

patterson o.b.e.

Among those receiving the M.B.E. in Buckingham Palace last Tuesday was a mysterious Mr. Cecil Patterson, Belfast. None of the N.I. papers give any details of the fine services for the Crown which earned Mr. Patterson his reward. To spare our readers the bother of rushing out to buy the Court Circular we can inform them that Cecil Patterson is a high-ranking member of the R.U.C.'s Special Branch. A fluent speaker of Irish, Mr. Patterson is believed to have paid visits to the Free State on a number of occasions. There is speculation as to the information received which entitled Mr. Patterson to his well earned reward.

states

The repression grows in the U.S. of A and more young militants, black and white, are shot down by the police. At present several P.D. members including comrades Dudgeon and Boyle are on speaking tours there and in coming issues we will be printing some of their reports on the local situation and on the views of the struggle here as expressed by American socialists.

MCGURK

Following reports of a speech by Tom McGurk at a Civil Rights Meeting in London, the Secretary of P.D. has sent the following letter to certain newspapers:

In your report of the London Civil Rights' meeting you describe Mr. Tom McGurk as a member of the People's Democracy. Mr. McGurk has not attended P.D. meetings for the better part of a year. In October last we established a card-carrying membership. Mr. McGurk has no such card and is, therefore, not a member of P.D.

Mr. McGurk has, on a number of occasions, led the press to believe that he speaks on behalf of the P.D. As he appears on a wide variety of platforms it is important that we should correct this misleading impression. I might add that even if McGurk were to apply for membership he would have to change a number of his views. He stood as a candidate for the Unity nomination in Fermanagh and South Tyrone in the recent Westminster election, an action which was directly contrary to P.D. policy.

MEMBERSHIP

I would like to become a member of the People's Democracy. I enclose a fee of 5 shillings.

Name.....
Address.....

All letters, gifts, correspondence etc. to:- 88, Ladybrook Park, Belfast.

To remit sums of money you can use our giro number:
68 101 2005

SUBSCRIPTIONS

FREE CITIZEN by post

Subscription	£2	1 year
(first class)	£1	6 months
Airmail	10/-	3months
	50/-	1 year

Write to 88 Ladybrook Pk
Belfast