

RELEASE THE PRISONERS

Long Kesh Concentration Camp, Lisburn, British Occupied Ireland.

PRISONERS DEPENDENTS

December is Prisoners Month and Christmas is the time of the year when we should remember the plight of the prisoners and their dependents. Collections should be made throughout the country to alleviate the suffering and distress of prisoners' dependents.

A meeting will be held shortly in Baile Atha Cliath by An Cumann Cabhrach to arrange for the collecting of funds. Notices will be issued in due course and everybody is asked to attend.

An Cumann Cabhrach

£5 per Mrs Kéane; £5 per Pat McCann; £5 T Ryan per S Gannan; £2 per Mrs Galligan; £1 per P Nagle.
CIARRAI: £50 per Sean O Se.
IARMHI: £40 per P Rogers, Multyfarnham.
LAOIS: £10 per E McMurch, Portlaoise.
THAR LEAR: £1 per J Stapleton, Bristol; £1 per S Doyle, Bristol per J Clarke; £30 Liam Barry, Melbourne per Joe Clarke; \$87 per C Malone, California; \$4 per Cyril Gargan.

The following subscriptions were received recently by An Cumann Cabhrach:
CABHAN: £5 per Paddy Duffy; £69.62 Liam Minnagh.
CORCAIGH: £1 per D O Duchais, Bantry.
LUMNEACH: £300 per Susan Mulcahy.
LU: £20 per Larry Grogan, Droichead Atha; £6.75 per Goss and Gaughan Cumann.
BAILE ATHA CLIATH: £10 per Tomas O Dubhghaill Cumann; £10 per Mrs Keane;

LETTER FROM LONG KESH

The following letter was recently received from the secretary of Cumann Eamonn Lafferty, Sinn Fein, Compound II, Long Kesh Concentration Camp in British Occupied Ireland:

"We wish to inform you that Internee L.K.6, Anthony Weldon, Rory O'Connor House, Temple St, Dublin was arrested on 9.8.71 in Derry City and is interned since then - first on Maidstone and now here. "During the recent riots in compound two the following men were seriously injured and detained in Magrave Military Hospital: Frank Maynes (Co Tyrone), B Denvir (Belfast), John Davey (Co Derry), Seamus McMahor (Loughgiel), Peter Mallon (Newry).

"The following men were injured - head wounds - body bruises - lacerations etc and removed to camp Hospital here: Frank McGlade (Belfast), Paddy Mulvenna (Ardoynne), Moss Gribbin, Joe McGinley, Joe Heaney (All Armagh City), Phil McCullough (Belfast), P O'Hagan (Kilkeel), B Corr (Co Derry), Sean O'Neill (Clonair), Sean McDonald (Dungannon), C Lenaghan (Ballymurphy), L McCay (Belfast), Frank Hughes (Blackwaterstown), O Lonergan and Gene Moore (Newry), D Barr (Ederny), Donal Kieley (Dungiven). "A further thirty four

men were treated in the compound and as no hospital space was available they were kept in their own sleeping quarters and many others were wounded without receiving any treatment. Of the men in hospital 18 give their allegiance to Kevin Street. Mrs Kathleen Thompson from Derry City who was murdered today by Crown Forces was a regular visitor to the internees here and was an active member of the Womens Action Committee in Derry City. "A claim totalling nearly three thousand pounds has been lodged with the Association for Legal Justice in respect of property raped, looted and destroyed by Crown Forces in Compound Two during searches on October 25 and 26.

"These troops fully armed held the detainees in the open yard for 3 1/2 hours while their compatriots ravaged our sleeping quarters taking cigarettes, watches, suits, shirts etc and destroying religious objects, family photographs, records and record player. They also smashed three accordions, three guitars and various musical instruments, the property of the men interned. "During a visit of 6 Unionist and 1 N.I. Labour MPs here on 4.11.71 they stated that they had visited the compounds and found

conditions excellent. We state categorically that this is a lie as none of them approached any of the men or at any time were nearer than twenty yards to any of the compounds.

"They stood outside the perimeter wire of the cages and gazed in at us as if they were on a visit to Belfast Zoo.

"The Eamonn Lafferty Sinn Fein Cumann is again active in Compound II and have resumed Irish Language Classes following the destruction of all their books and records on October 25. The Dorothy Maguire Sinn Fein Cumann is also active in Cage III and we have been informed that a new Cumann will soon be formed in Compound IV. Compound No 1 is empty at present as is also Compound V which will be ready shortly.

"This place will be capable of holding 700 prisoners within the next few weeks as building is continuing very rapidly.

"We suggest that you try sending a parcel of An Phoblacht by Parcel Post addressed to each Compound 2, 3 and 4 by return.

"We require also any available historical items especially those written by Eamonn Mac Tomais, and also any designs for tracing on Handkerchiefs i.e. Last Man, Easter Lily etc.

N.G.A. MEMBERS INTERNED

It was reported at a recent meeting of the Dublin Committee of the National Graves Association, Dublin that a large number of the Association members in the Six Counties were under sentence of imprisonment or internment because of their national beliefs. It may be assumed that their membership of the Association added to their guilt in the eyes of the Stormont Government. The guiding principal that neither of the partitionist parliaments represent the true aspirations of the Irish people, would be certainly used against them.

The Dublin Committee expressed their pride that such members as P. J. McClean, Tyrone, Sean Keenan, Derry, Andy McGee, Armagh, and Willie J. McCorry, Belfast are considered such enemies of the Stormont regime, that they must be kept in jails or internment camps.

A vote of solidarity with the principals was passed at the meeting.

I gCuimhne

BARNEY CASEY, Longford - shot by Free State Military police, Curragh Camp, December 16, 1940.
JOHN HINCHEY, Louth - died in Mountjoy Prison, December 28, 1942.
CHARLES KERINS, Kerry - hanged in Mountjoy Prison, December 1, 1944.

Is it a cunning ploy of the government in power to suffocate our mental ability to think that by unleashing on an unsuspecting public such a torrent of facts and figures relating to entry into the Common Market that the most natural response of the man in the street is to throw his hands up in despair and decide to leave it to them that "knows what they're talking about?"

Everyone knows that statistics can be juggled with to such an extent that the same set of figures can be used to prove two totally opposite points of view. How then are we to decide which of the two — the Pro-Marketters and the Anti-Marketters — are drawing the more honest conclusions from the figures presented to us? The Mansholt Plan (The Common Markets Agricultural Blue Print) states in Section 88:—

"The Commission considers that, if the measures contained in the Agriculture 1980 programme to help persons wishing to change their occupation or to retire, have the effect expected, the active agricultural population will fall from ten millions in 1970 to five million in 1980."

If this plan is strictly followed in Ireland it would result in a reduction of 146,000 in the 1970 Irish agricultural population of 291,000. You'll notice the official language used is typical of that of our own Fascist Regime in the North: polite phrases such as 'The better Government of Northern Ireland,' or 'Slum Clearance Programme.'

Roughly translated the first is a nice piece of fascist legislation which transformed this part of Ireland into the Police State it is, the second is to be seen in the concrete jungles of the Divis Tower Complex. When the plan states 'to help persons wishing to change their occupation or to retire,' it means that conditions will be made so impossible for the small farmer to operate under the Mansholt Plan that he will then 'wish to change his occupation.'

Those small farmers too old to find alternative employment will be 'helped to retire' — thrown on the scrap heap to live out their days on a state subsidy.

DISSOPSED

With a decline in the agricultural population there will be a corresponding increase in the industrial worker numbers as the dispossessed small farmers will of necessity flock to the cities seeking employment to support themselves and their families. Added to this increase in those seeking work will be those at present working in several industries which will go out of production once we enter the EEC.

These will be industries such as the Meat and Bacon Curing Industries which will no longer be protected by preferential treatment once we enter the Common Market. We are told not to worry too much about these frightening prospects as we can expect new job opportunities will arise once we have entered which will absorb any loss of employment in agriculture and industry.

But before we start cheering we should examine the honesty of these predictions of new job formations with the earlier official predictions and the actual realisation of new jobs. All previous predictions have been of a net increase in jobs but the stark fact is that the number of jobs available in 1970 is less than the number actually available when the prediction was made. It is difficult enough to create sufficient new jobs to offset the normal redundancy created by technological change and economic development, but with the added problem of some 140,000 dispossessed farmers joining the already swollen ranks of the unemployed, the problem would be well nigh insoluble.

This will be borne out if we take a look at the record of job formation in the 1960's, and how the figure was achieved. During this period, the Government consistently financed about one quarter of its expenditure by borrowing! As a result the national debt increased from £417m to £1,009m between 1960 and 1970; the cost of servicing it (paying the interest) rose from £28m per annum to £102m. Government deficit spending (money they hadn't got) played a vital part in creating new jobs in the 1960's, yet even then the new jobs created did not even compensate for jobs lost.

We can be under no misapprehension that the Government will be in no position in the '70's to spend the same sum in creating work and that fewer jobs can be expected from this source. At the same time membership of the EEC will accelerate redundancy in agriculture, fishing and manufacturing industry. What is happening is that the native capitalist afraid of being called to account by the people for their incompetence have been forced to turn to the robber barons in Europe to pull their fat out of the fire.

DOCILITY

There is nothing really original in the idea of a Greater European Free Trade Zone. The EEC which is the

THE COMMON MARKET

NO

A NORTHERN VIEW

EEC : PRICE INCREASES

Not only would Common Market entry mean over a 30% reduction in employment in Ireland by 1980 but it would also mean an increase in food prices of at least £3.50 per week per household. Here are some typical Irish and German prices; in some cases items cost 100% or more in the EEC:

FOOD ITEM	IRISH PRICE	EEC PRICE
1 lb plain cheese	20p	45p
1 lb sugar	5p	10p
1 lb butter	25p	45p
1 lb fillet steak	88p	130p
1 lb pork	33p	56p
1 lb cod fillet	18p	34p
1 lb potatoes	4p	16p
1 lb oranges	8p	18p
1 lb apples	10p	15p
1 lb tea	40p	120p
1 lb strawberry jam	15p	18p
1 lb white bread	6p	9p
1 lb salt	5p	10p
1 lb tin custard	10p	22p
1 pk milk	4½p	8p
1 dz standard eggs	25p	45p
8 oz tin instant coffee	60p	110p
5 oz packet jelly	5p	20p
1 lb packet cornflakes	12p	27p
½ pt carton cream	15p	22p

misconception of the United States Marshall Aid Programme to a war shattered Europe was first envisaged by the originators of Imperialist economic thinking, the Romans. In Imperial Rome it was only the members of the 'Club,' or to use a more common term the 'In Crowd,' which benefitted directly from the spoils of empire. The common gardener type Romans, the 'Plebs,' were successfully gulled by their masters into believing they too were heirs and partners in the Greater Europe. Panem et Circenses, Bread and Circus's, was the earliest Common Market enthusiasts' way for keeping discontent among the working class down to a minimum. No one is surprised that the same tactics are being adopted to-day to gull the working class into accepting that the Common Market is the greatest thing invented since the Bap.

Outside the idiot image of the Common Market, the rosy picture of the man in the street asking for his Guinness in French and watching the latest Swedish sex film without

the benefit of sub-titles, we are left with the terrible prospect of a wage slave market of over two hundred and fifty million people dragged into docility by the promise of cheap food and better things to come. Who can believe in the 'Days of Wine and Roses' world envisaged by Ted Heath, a man who in the short space of one year in power, has succeeded in driving the unemployment figure in Britain to over the million mark and is indirectly responsible for the present war of attrition being carried out by the British Armed Forces on the streets of Belfast?

CONSPIRACY

Who is in favour of the Common Market? The simple answer is the Bosses, the capitalist and in general the 'haves.' Who is against the Common Market? The simple answer is the small farmers and the industrial worker — in general 'the have nots.' The house burglar and bank robber of International Finance have combined in the greatest conspiracy of all times to cut costs and agreed in an unholy alliance against the working class of Europe. This is not the first time we have heard of criminals forming syndicates for self-preservation, Capone did it in Chicago but then Capone had no mandate from the people to enter into a business partnership with Bugsy Malone, neither does Heath nor Lynch possess a mandate from the people of England or Ireland to enter the Capitalist Monopoly of the EEC.

In a popular referendum in either of the two countries no one is in any doubt what the result would be. It is for that very reason that the people are not being given the opportunity to express their will with regards to membership. In the south of Ireland, Lynch is not so fortunate as his counterpart in England. Before Fianna Fail can drag a reluctant people into the Common Market, a referendum must be held. This referendum is of particular interest to the people of the North in that it is concerned with the Constitution of the 'Irish Republic.' Before Lynch can bring Ireland into the EEC certain changes must be made in the constitution to bring it into accordance with the Treaty of Rome. One important clause in the Treaty of Rome states that no member country can lay claim or jurisdiction over any territory belonging to or under the jurisdiction of a fellow member.

SURRENDER

Among other provisions of the constitution which would have to be changed would be Article 5 which states that Ireland is a sovereign independent democratic state. Article 6.2 that provides that the legislative and judicial powers of the government are exercisable by or on the authority of the organs of state established by the constitution. Article 15.2 which vests in the Oireachtas the sole and exclusive power of making laws for the state, and provides that no other legislative authority has the power to make laws for the state.

From a purely parochial point of view we are entitled to ask how the Irish people struggled for seven hundred years for national independence only to surrender it on the wishes of a few and for their benefit to enter into another period of national servitude?

Even were it to our economic benefit, the majority of Irish people would answer NO.
(Athleoh a Republican News)

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

The Council of Europe adopted a resolution of full support for the concept of regional government on May 14, 1969. It reads:

- "1. The autonomy of a local community is the right of that community to manage under its own responsibility its own affairs with a freely-elected assembly.
- "2. The principle of local autonomy shall be embodied in the constitution of each state.
- "3. To safeguard their autonomy, local communities shall be allowed such form of organisation as will enable them to meet the requirements of the population.
- "4. Local communities shall have the right to associate lawfully with each other for any purpose serving their common interests.
- "5. Any measures affecting local interests shall be taken by the local authorities in preference to the authorities of larger communities.
- "6. Representatives of local communities shall be heard on any measure involving the future of such communities.
- "7. Supervision of measures taken by local communities shall not exceed the control of their legality.
- "8. Autonomy implies that local communities shall have the free disposal of finances distinct, particularly, from those of the state.
- "9. Funds shall be available to the local communities in proportion to the tasks assumed by those communities."

STRONG AND BINDING DUTY TO NATION

Language contains and expresses the thoughts, hopes, aspirations and truths of life gained by experience, and hands them down ennobled from generation to generation. As every nation has had different experience, fortune or misfortune, persecution or success, so these have impressed themselves upon the language, and given it a certain individuality.

Besides this, as there is a personal difference between man and man, so there is between nation and nation — a difference which is entirely spiritual, and has the most characteristic effect upon the turns of speech and force of words.

In the national language is enshrined more or less clearly by proverbs, songs, and stories, the idea of life which that nation has formed; and so in it we must look for what will be the future life of the nation,

its most distinctive mark, and the means we must employ for its furtherance.

Once the language is lost, the means and substance of progress is lost; it only remains to regenerate a new life, to commence at the bottom of the scale forming new ideas from totally different and perhaps worse conditions of life, employing foreign modes of expression, or else take them secondhand and ready-made, worn out and badly fitting. Progress and language are intimately bound together — the one is the expression of the other.

NEED MANY NOTES TO MAKE HARMONY

But perhaps you may ask, and not unjustly, what have I as an individual to do with the hopes and aspirations of the whole people or a people to be? I live honourably and uprightly and in good

fellowship with those around, is that not enough? All else is mere sentiment, and may as well be done without. The wisest of men have tried to solve that question, and the opinion has been that it is not enough. Nature itself cares little for the individual; everything is sacrificed for the progress of the class.

The lives of men, of nations, and peoples are bound together, and if they do not work in harmony all labour and life in the world is folly.

One note by itself can not make harmony — it takes many; and what greater harmony can there be than that of the nations of the earth living in fellowship; and as in a friend we look for strength where we are weak, so the different characteristics of the nations will increase their fellowship.

A STRONG AND BINDING DUTY

That we should preserve our language is not a matter of sentiment, but a strong and binding duty, and the more enjoyment in the fulfilling of it, the more we recognise its value and true worth. Speech was never given to man to convenience the powers and opportunities that he has for making money, but as an image of that language which all understand in feeling, joy and sorrow, love and pity, the language of the heart and soul, of the angels above.

What words do we not cherish most? Are they not those that we learnt in our infancy from our mother's lips? What tongue is dearer to a nation than that which its heroes and poets have spoken!

What you may now call a matter of sentiment will be to our children the

profoundest loss. Nations all over the world are clinging together, are fighting and struggling for their existence. The great nations that have been most successful are bound to decay; the seeds of decay are being set and watered.

A LOST LIFE CAN NOT BE RESTORED

All nations that ever rose and prospered have run the same course, and all for the same cause; they all lost what the knowing and smart people of this world despise, the sentiment of sacrifice, the sentiment of the national altar, the justice and devotion to each other's welfare; for some men in all ages have felt that there is a higher object of attainment than individual happiness — national happiness and advancement — which can only be obtained by justice and friendly help. Aegis for Sparta, the Gracchi for

Rome, and Christ for the world, but the world has little heed.

It is not personal advantage or material prosperity that they taught us to look for, something higher and nobler, whose interest is not measured in pounds or pence, but truth and affection, universal charity. To blasé an imbecile, that is the Irish sentiment. We must realise it now or perish.

Is it your will that our nationality should be blotted out — our language, the aspirations of our fathers and our fathers' fathers? A few years will decide, and we will be the deciders. A national life once lost can never be renewed; we will be a parasitic nation, a Lucullus at the board of Timon, shame and sorrow will result for both. Having betrayed the trust of our ancestors, we will have forgotten the word of our God.

Eanna MacCormaic

LITREACHA

Australian call to Heath

A Chára,
I have been directed by the Committee of the Green Cross Society of Australasia (Victorian Branch) to forward to An Phoblacht a copy of letter, dated 16/10/71, sent to the Hon. Edward Heath, Prime Minister of Great Britain, regarding the situation in "North-East" Ireland.
It would be appreciated if some reference to this could be made in your columns.

Mise, do chára,
Dean Lavin (Secretary)

The following is the text of the letter:

The Hon. Edward Heath, Prime Minister of Great Britain, 10 Downing Street, LONDON, England.

Dear Sir,
We have been directed by a public meeting held in the Richmond Town Hall on Saturday afternoon, 3rd October, to make certain representations to you regarding the presence of British troops in that part of Ireland known officially as "Northern Ireland".
Our Society is known as the "Green Cross Society of Australasia" and has

branches in most States of Australia. Consisting as it does of various Irish Societies it can be said to express the opinions of most of those of Irish birth and descent in Australia, numbering from two to three million.

This Society has noted the decision of the Stormont Government to intern Irish citizens for indefinite periods without charge or trial, this being contrary to all concepts of justice. This decision has been made under powers conferred by the Government of Great Britain, and you and your Ministers must accept some responsibility for same.

Further, your Government, at the request of the Stormont Government, has felt obliged to send armed forces to North-East Ireland in an effort to alleviate the antagonistic existing between Irishmen of differing opinions. In this year Government's intention has become an abject failure. The recent increase in your troops in Ireland has proved this. Your forces have shown a strong partiality towards the

supporters of the Stormont Government, and your soldiers are proving themselves to be "trigger happy" shooting innocent people without warning and without justifiable reason. We mention particularly the cases of the shooting of Rev. Father Mulligan; of Harold Thornton of Belfast (8/8/71); of Eugene McGuire, a young deaf mute. There are numerous other cases.

The failure of your armed forces to maintain peace has caused a large number of defenceless men, women and children to seek refuge elsewhere in Ireland and England. Some of these refugees have been maltreated by your soldiers, apart from the mental anguish suffered by them.

Just as your Government has decided to withdraw its armed forces from the Far-East, so it should also withdraw its forces from Ireland. This would be in accord with the wishes of the people of England, as indicated in recent Gallup (opinion) polls. This military withdrawal should also be accompanied by the cancellation of the subsidy of £100,000,000 being paid annually by your

Government to the Stormont Government to keep it in a financial position.

We believe that the complete withdrawal of British support of all kinds from the Northern Ireland Government would bring about a situation from where it would be inevitable that the differing sections of the Irish people would be forced to find a satisfactory solution to their problems. This has occurred elsewhere and there is no reason why it cannot happen in Ireland.

Viewing the situation as outlined above the Public Meeting carried a resolution to the effect that your Government and yourself should resign.

We have further to add that by direction of the Public Meeting referred to in the foregoing paragraph a copy of this letter will be sent to the newspapers particularly interested.

Yours sincerely,
Kevin Fitzpatrick
(Chairman)
Sean Lavin
(Secretary)

20 Spink St.,
Gardenvale,
Victoria,
Australia 3185.

LEABHAR

THE MIND OF AN ACTIVIST JAMES CONNOLLY Owen Dudley Edwards

James Connolly was executed by a British firing squad in 1916 — strapped to a chair because his wounds would not allow him to stand. He was one of the greatest of Irish leaders and perhaps one of the most profound minds in Irish history.

Socialism was his belief and his goal but realising that Ireland could not become socialist without first gaining independence he committed himself to the nationalist cause. He never forgot that the struggle was international and through his writing and work greatly influenced the British and American Labour movements. Unfortunately in Ireland his beliefs and wishes for the working classes have been paid only lip service by self-seeking politicians right down to this day.

Owen Dudley Edwards, who wrote this book is a lecturer in history in

Edinburgh University. He is the author of *The Six of Our Fathers* (Dublin 1970) and co-author of *Celtic Nationalism* (London 1968).

In this book he attempts to show how Connolly sought to apply the principles of human brotherhood and radical anti-sectarianism to the Irish of his time. The only good thing about this book is the many excellent quotations from Connolly's writings and speeches. For that reason alone we suggest you buy it. The late Mr Sean Lemass and the trade unions today were and are as near to Connolly as Ireland is to the moon, despite Mr Edward's best efforts to show otherwise.

The contents of the book originate from a lecture given by the author to the trade unions and might sound better to the ear than it appears to the eye. The style is very boring to read. Mr Edwards has not really discovered Connolly the activist.

"EBLANA"

Nobel Katanga Cruise O'Brien

Dear Sir,
Republicans in Co Wexford are not deaf to the anti-national ratings of your spokesman, Conor "Nobel" Cruise O'Brien. In view of his "Katanga" he stands on very thin ground, unlike Herr Brandt, and it is our avowed intention to make his stab-in-the-back on the IRA and on the cause of Irish Freedom a matter for public hearing at every church gate in your constituency.

You the politicians are now having your "re-think" well aware that your mealy-mouthed shibboleths have failed to fool the people of Ireland. A fight with England, Sir, is always a fight. History will find you personally wearing the mantle of Connolly as would an old woman a moth-eaten shawl. You too have stood idly by (perhaps your lack of leadership whilst the people of your own county contributed magnificently in cash, kind and personnel. I should

know, I helped to collect it and I heard their comments. "I hope this goes to the right place." "I hope this is not for blankets."

Even your own committee chairman, Mr Don Gallagher of Co Wicklow, has pointed this out to you at this late hour and has accused your party of "anti-national stand on the Northern situation." He has even resigned.

'98 nor had they forgotten Edeunubber, nor for that matter our "own" North Cork militia whom we seem to have always with us, sceptre-like, our Sadliers and Keoghs, God help us.

When it comes to the crunch, the heart of the Irish people, North or South, will not be won by some of these yielded carpetbagger. Nor are they easily bought nor even at the cost of losing a peace Nobel.

Diarmuid O'Suilleabhain,
Cluaninn,
Guaire,
Co Loch Garman 22/10/71

Selling out Ireland to the Masons

A Chára,
The present unsettled situation in the Six Counties is pushing the booming COMBINE Market entry question — and into the background of the news media etc. Presently the United States of Europe consists of Belgium, France, West Germany, Holland, Italy and Luxembourg. They signed the Treaty of Rome in 1957 to start the EEC on January 1st, 1958. In the words of its President, Walter Hallstein, "we are not in business at all, we are in politics."

Yet, signing the Treaty of Rome has the following five dangerous consequences for Ireland's application: (1) The member states are not to be bound by the Treaty; (2) All members must accept a superior form of Government, in the shape of the EEC institutions; (3) Every member state must accept majority decisions on policy, even if the same

policy harms them; (4) A commission of nine civil servants in Brussels has far-reaching powers to issue regulations, binding on all countries whatever their national parliaments may wish; (5) The say, which every ordinary individual has today, through his or her vote, would grow less and less, because elected parliaments will dwindle in importance and the unelected European Officials would become more powerful.

Within this large community, there will be complete freedom of movement of persons, so if the partitioned island of Ireland become a member, no restriction can be placed on the entry of communists from Italy, France or any of the other Common Market countries. Of course this is not saying that there are none here at present. On the contrary, we already have The Communist Party of Ireland and other smaller

left-wing groups. Who are the big businessmen that back the United States of Europe? None, other than the Rockefeller Foundation, who are members of the secret masonic grouping called "The Bilderbergers", as well as being in control of Standard Oil, who own and controlling thousands of corporations doing business in all parts of the world. In the USA the Rockefellers exert a tremendous influence on politics, government, industry and finance.

They control the governments of countless cities, states and nations. The United States of Europe when fully established as a political union, will come within the authority of the UNO. From the very start of this European Movement (Atlantic Union), the American Government has expressed its approval of the

plan. The official OK was given in June 1947 when the then Secretary of State, George Marshall said: "These free nations have passed beyond their agitation for economic and military co-operation to the consideration of a Western European Union. This development offers great hope."

In August, 1948, the State Department gave an official announcement: "The US Government strongly favours the progressively closer integration of the free nations of Western Europe."

Are the Irish people being sold out to big business which represents the Masonic clan? It would seem so.

Yours sincerely,
Thomas Wall
Ballinookera,
Whitegate,
Midleton,
Co Chorcaigh.

Some Reflections on A Policy of Force

Views expressed in this section need not represent the policy of the Republican Movement. Contributions in Irish or English welcomed.

Tuairimíocht ar phoblacht, ceannairchie, nuair míleata agus a chinnál réithe agus míleata i gcionn.

Forum

The Catholic Bishops' recent statement on the Northern threat and their condemnation of the Republican Movement's policy of force for its solution, is significant for two reasons: (1) They have formulated the grievances of the Nationalist Movement to Six Counties with reference to their historical origins; (2) in directing their denunciation of force exclusively at the Republican Movement they have raised, but have made no apparent attempt to answer, a number of questions relating to the use of force.

In enumerating the grievances of the Nationalist minority their criteria were self-evident and indicated no ulterior motive. But their selective condemnation of force there is no word or phrase to indicate what criterion, if any, was employed. Is the use of force in all circumstances and at all times unjust and immoral? Obviously the use is justified in the present circumstances we must reflect, for a while, on the historical causes of these circumstances, and the motives by which each side is animated.

The fundamental principle for which Republicans are contending has been stated already on numerous occasions. It is a principle basic to the concept of democracy: the right to the self-determination of peoples.

All those who talk so learnedly about the rights of the majority, and the right presumably to use force to suppress any threat to it's existence, ignore the fact that the majority of the Six Counties is a minority within the Irish nation. The fact of their Irish nationality has never been regulated or even dispersed by Unionist politicians.

To talk about the rights of Unionists without reference to the historical origins of those rights is mere subterfuge. Those rights were established in defiance of the greater proportion of the people's explicitly expressed desire for political self-determination. By rejecting that decision and adopting a policy of force on that occasion the Unionist minority showed that it respected neither the free choice of the majority nor the democratic process.

I might ask all those who have condemned the methods being used by the IRA to restore the unity of the country, do they equally condemn the methods by which the British military force was established in the first place? Are the reasons for which that government was established, and is maintained, justification enough for the force which has been used and is being used, not merely to suppress the nationalist minority within it's jurisdiction, but to perpetuate the dismemberment of the nation in opposition to the wishes of the majority of their people? If those

reasons cannot, as I believe that they cannot, justify Unionist policy, then the liberal main tenance of that policy is a cynical violation both of the claims of justice and the integrity of the Irish nation.

Viewed in it's historical context, therefore, it is obvious that there is no basis in fact for the allegation that the IRA are trying to impose by military action the wishes of a minority over those of the majority. The contrary is the truth. The IRA are upholding the rights of the majority against the usurping rule by a minority of a portion of Ireland supported from abroad by the British Government and at home by the presence of a British military force.

The Bishops have made the point that the only foundation for a lasting peace is justice. We may, each one of us, usefully reflect for a while on the question: What constitutes justice for Ireland? Can justice for Ireland be anything less than the fulfilment of her historic claim to national freedom and independence? The question is not as rhetorical as it may sound. Nor does clarification of the phrase "national freedom and independence" require any strenuous mental effort on our part.

In the essays of Seán MacPárláin entitled "Ghosts" we can find the definition which we seek. Speaking there of the tradition of Irish nationality he tells us that "politically, Ireland's claim has been for freedom in order to preserve the full and perpetual life of that tradition."

To MacPárláin the freedom of Ireland had but one definition: that definition was yesterday's definition, is today's definition and will be tomorrow's definition. "It has meant not a limited freedom . . . but absolute freedom, the sovereign control of Irish destinies. It has meant not the freedom of a class, but the freedom of a people. It has meant not the freedom of a geographical fragment of Ireland, but the freedom of all Ireland, of every sod of Ireland." He castigates the timid, and refuted the doctrine still being preached by the supine politicians today, "that it can ever be lawful in the interest of empire, in the interest of wealth, in the interest of quiet living, to forego the right to freedom."

He affirmed that "the men who have led Ireland for twenty-five years have done evil, and they are bankrupt. They are bankrupt in policy, bankrupt in credit, bankrupt now even in words. They have nothing to propose to Ireland, no way of wisdom, no counsel of courage. When they speak they speak only untruth and blasphemy."

He summarised in one short paragraph all that we are heirs to and are bound by: "I make the contention that the national demand

of Ireland is fixed and determined; that that demand has been made by every generation; that we of this generation receive it as a trust from our fathers; that we are bound by it; that we have not the right to alter or to abate it by one jot or tittle; and that any undertaking made in the name of Ireland to accept, in full satisfaction of Ireland's claim, anything less than the generations of Ireland have stood for is null and void, binding on Ireland neither by the law of God nor by the law of nations."

I have quoted extensively from MacPárláin because his is the strongest and most authentic voice of this century to have spoken in support of Ireland's right to self-determination. All those who criticise the Republican Movement's policy of force ought to have examined the vivifying principle and historical source of that policy, and have comprehended it in it's essentials, before raising their voices in criticism of it. The ideals for which Republicans are again fighting and dying are not merely the ideals of this generation; but the ideals of all those who "have stood for Ireland through five hazy centuries," just as loyalty in the practical application of these ideals will be the responsibility of the young men of future generations.

My remarks are not intended primarily for the Bishops, but chiefly for all those who, over the years, have willfully abandoned those ideals "in the interest of wealth, in the interest of quiet living." I am simply using the opportunity provided by the Bishops' statement to answer a great deal of less well formulated criticism emanating mainly from learned and public men and women. I do not doubt that the Bishops acted from the highest motives. I cannot help but be suspicious of the motives by which politicians of all parties attempt to be animated. I have made the statement as it reflects courage and a sense of responsibility on the part of the Bishops.

Our so-called political leaders are men who possess neither the strength of character nor the desire to fulfil their responsibilities. Among the Leinster House government there is not one man fit for the conviction and talent to carry forward the ideals he talks about into the sphere of practical action. Where one might have expected to find courage, self-sacrifice and patriotism, one finds instead only ambition, self-interest and betrayal, until untruth and hypocrisy have become the distinguishing mark of government and a means to promotion.

Robert Hall

Why should Protestants support a United Ireland?

The Republican Movement is made up of individuals from many walks of life, each undoubtedly having his own precise opinion as to the ultimate form of Socialist Republican Government. The one ideal however, that binds us together, from our earliest days, is the realisation that one should not exclude anyone from the benefits of the bonds of English imperialism, its legacy of bigotry and injustice, and free to masters of our own destiny.

Knowing this, it is important to bear in mind that we have a country which is made up of a people who are of varying shades of religious opinions and beliefs - including those of none in particular - i.e. agnostics, freethinkers and atheists. Consequently, all will be guaranteed equality before the law, being children of the nation.

From looking at the statelets of Northern Ireland one might be of the opinion that Roman Catholics are more Irish than their Protestant brothers in their participation in our Cultural activities and especially our National Games. But if there is truth in this line of thought then we should not exclude anyone from the fact that in a united country Protestants will not take their place. Protestants in the north find themselves in their peculiar dilemma due to historical factors immediately following the 98 rebellion.

I know fellow Republicans do not exclude anyone from the field on the grounds of religion; yet it ought to be remembered that Protestants have been subjected, over a long period in our history, to the manipulations of English Government. Tricked by Unionist politicians who have incited fear and suspicion in them, their minds have been influenced by a British educational and

communications system which discourages our games, language, history, music and dances. Needless to say in such an atmosphere Republican philosophy is anathema.

Fundamentally, it is British Imperialism with the prop of Orangism, playing upon the Protestant fears which is behind the partition of our Country. Republicans should view with compassion this unfortunate predicament and recall that it is not the ordinary Protestant who is directly responsible for what has come about. Surely it is the legacy of Empire - of divide and conquer - the seeds of which have been sown many years ago. It is these same seeds which have been rooted in Protestant minds, consequently distorting their true national outlook - leaving them a false and superficial self-identity.

It is both pertinent and realistic therefore, to ask the question: Why should a Protestant support a united Ireland? To me the main reasons are: Logic and Geography: When a native of the Six Counties goes abroad he is invariably considered to be Irish. Even the one who favours the union with Britain their Irish Nationality is really a question of emphasis. With unification nothing would be more natural than the Northern Protestant to discover his true nationality. Economic unity of a natural economic unit has led to a depressing effect in both the segment economies of Ireland. The potential of the 32-County idea has not been realised because of a divisive boundary. Chronic unemployment north and south seems to be the only common problem. Unification although it may bring a temporary fall in incomes in the north for a

while land this case is by no means certain) inevitably economic nationalisation will give sustained growth for a few years. Social Justice: To me who lives in the North (but also to a lesser extent in the South) this is the most important result that can be hoped from the abolition of Stormont. Observers seeing the political stalemate in the North see the importance of the political views created by sincerely held political viewpoints. The atmosphere created by this intransigent situation leads to symptomatic bigotry and mutual suspicion which David Bleakly and all the picnics in the world will not completely remove.

In ending this article it must be made clear that, as with Roman Catholics, there are with Protestants, many shades of opinion and lines of thought. Our new Republic must allow for a differentiation between communities - no more should we have a 'religious society' which has allowed the political winds to blow over us - rather let us strive for a 'Christian Society'.

As a member of the Protestant religion I believe that as a Republican this is the only party at the present time who can give Ireland what she greatly deserves: peace and justice for all. So, today, and it comes closer, the truths of our cause will be carried forward with our victory over injustices and divisions. God spare us that we may return to a land of "Saints and Scholars" - a nation that can give forth to mankind the great example of how we can live in peace and harmony and once again make our island great for our future generations.

P. M. J. Barrington.

A Fiscal System For The Good of the People

Any Nation, struggling for final freedom, as the Irish Nation is at the moment, should have clear objectives so that when ultimate victory is achieved the same drive and thrust that brought this about can be channelled into an intense national move towards a new just society - in our case this is private property at a 32 County Socialist Government - with emphasis on co-operatives and worker participation at all levels. There will be many problems and many urgent matters to deal with - mines, gas and oil off the coast, forestry, fishing, agriculture, industry, etc. All will have their own particular difficulties.

Eire Nua, the Sinn Féin economic and social programme, indicates ways of dealing with these problems and gives many answers - in our case this is private property at a 32 County and developing the resources of Ireland is the key to it all. - Finance.

It is quite possible to achieve national freedom and to lose it again by allowing finance to be dominated by private or foreign influence. This is the position in the 26 Counties at the moment where private Banking and Foreign Finance open or close industries at will, force men and women into redundancy and take profits out of Ireland.

The existing financial structure in Ireland is in no way related to the needs of producing people. It is not what the men and women of 1916 fought for, and it gives us little to offer the Protestant work force in the 6 Counties if we wish his co-operation in building Eire Nua.

Under "Finance" in Eire Nua we are told "As Sinn Féin Government having jurisdiction over the whole 32 county area would proceed to establish a genuinely independent Irish Currency." This would of course include the control of credit by the State - representatives of the people would be empowered by any course of action it is a sound idea to see if the method has been used before. If it has, we may be able to learn from it. In the present case we have an excellent example of a fiscal system controlled for the glory of the people by their representatives and having no private or foreign influence.

Guiney, an Island like Ireland, initiated a system of monetary reform in 1817 and which to this day is working successfully - as

can be seen by its having the lowest taxation in Western Europe - and the vast material improvement visible on the island since the inception of this monetary reform.

At the termination of the Napoleonic Wars - the beginning of the 19th Century - the island of Guernsey was in a very poor way. There was little to tempt visitors from the mainland, no real roads, only cart tracks which in wet weather turned into muddy rivers, the town was badly paved, there was no trade and little hope of employment. As in Ireland, many people emigrated to the mainland. But the worst feature of all was the state of the natural resources, the roads and schools there was only about £600 per year available. Yet, at this time the cost of repairing the dykes was estimated at £10,000.

In 1815 it was found necessary to improve the Public Market and a committee was appointed to examine the project. Further taxation was impossible and it was necessary to approach the Bank which would incur high interest charges. In fact, with the low income of the island the capital sum of £10,000 if borrowed, would never be paid back but the interest would have to be paid indefinitely.

After long and careful deliberation this Committee came to a historic decision. The cost of a new Covered Market should be met by the issue of States Notes to the value of £5,000 - these notes were not only met but the cost of the Covered Market, but would provide a permanent revenue to the States and would also create an amortization fund to rid the States of its debt. Thus in 1816, notes to the value of £4,000 were issued and again in 1820 a further £4,000 in notes were issued. The same tax issues were to be redeemed over ten years from import duties and revenue from butchers shops.

By 1837 notes had been issued to the value of £55,000 and had covered the cost of important public works - such as roads and buildings which could never have been covered if orthodox method of borrowing had been resorted to. Again, all this work had been completed without any interest charges. These same improvements had induced an increased flow of visitors to the

Island thus increasing trade and bringing prosperity to the island.

The issue of States Notes has steadily increased - in 1913 it was £1,000,000 and by 1957 it was £50,000,000. It is interesting to realise that in 1937 the States Note issue was £175,000 and cost over £450 for printing; a loan for the same sum would have cost over £11,000 annually in interest. From the inception of monetary reform in 1817 to this day there has never been any threat of inflation, for at all times the States are very careful in the issue and cancellation of notes according to ability and requirements. Anyone visiting Guernsey is amazed at the difference in prices between the island and the mainland. There is low taxation, low import duties and a high standard of living. What one island can do another can also.

In contrast to sane and just fiscal system it is interesting to quote a few examples of so-called orthodox finance -

The British National Debt bears an interest charge of £640 millions per year and the principal will never be repaid. This sum is collected from taxpayers and only about 1/5th is returned in interest to private savers - the balance goes as profit to banks, British and Foreign. This financial system had its repercussions on local authorities by creating fantastic financial problems for them.

Glasgow has a local debt of £167 millions (1960) thus each year the ratepayers have to find over £9 million interest charges. The original Fruit Market in Glasgow, was built in 1817 at a cost of £60,000, it was not paid for until 1956, 139 years later. While there are no records of the total interest paid, it is known that between 1910 and 1965 the interest charges were £267,586.

The flow in all orthodox financial systems is in money creation. Guernsey creates it's own money as a credit - in all other systems create money as a debit.

Let us Republicans who have the future wellbeing of Ireland as a better deep concern to then study the existing money system in a better term would be "legalized banditry" and be able to indicate the flaws in the system together with the ability to describe a better and more just system financially. This time let us make sure that in victory we are not cheated of our full fruits.

Deasún O Fathaigh



Members of Sinn Féin from all over Contae Chiarraí picketing the Court in Tra Lí when Batt Dowling of Ballinahoulart was charged with the possession of a Thompson sub-machine gun and a .303 rifle. Over 40 people took part in the picket which was marshalled by Kevin Barry. Among them was veteran Republican, Miss May Daly. They carried placards with the following slogans: "Are there Irishmen who would betray their Northern brothers?" "Does Heath call the tone North and South?" "More Free State Treachery;" "Helping the North a crime;" "Free State collaboration;" "Do you support quisling actions against our Northern people?" and "Lynch helps disarm the North." A public meeting was also held.

The following statements were issued by the Irish Republican Publicity Bureau (signed by P O'Neill, Runal) on the dates indicated:

I.R.P.B. 4/11/1971

"(1) Operations carried out by units of Orlaigh na hIra in the past seven days resulted in the following known enemy casualties: 2 British Servicemen and 3 members of the RUC killed. At least 18 British troops and 6 members of the RUC wounded. A British Serviceman wounded in Silevegalion Drive, Belfast last Monday night was not admitted by British Army sources. Many sabotage operations were carried out in all parts of the 6 Occupied Counties including the simultaneous destruction of eight Custom Posts last Saturday.

"British Army spokesmen have repeatedly claimed that our units have fired on British Troops from the 26 County side of the border. This is untrue. All armed action against the British has taken place inside the 6 Counties.

"(2) The leadership of the Republican Movement congratulates the people of the Border areas who have been actively resisting British Army units involved in the destruction of cross border roads. We urge the people of these areas to continue to fill in cratered roads and to do everything possible to obstruct the enemy.

"Our units will fully support our people in the border areas who are striving to maintain free access to their own areas."

I.R.P.B. 11/11/1971

"(1) During the past seven days, our units have inflicted the following known casualties on the enemy:

2 British Servicemen killed and 13 wounded. British Spokesmen did not admit the following: A British Serviceman wounded last Monday at the junction of Beochment Ave. and the Falls Road, a large number of British Servicemen were wounded in Derry last Saturday, one of whom may be dead.

"(2) The leadership of the Republican Movement tender their condolences to the family of the late Mrs. Thompson of Derry. We confirm the local reports that there was no exchange of fire in the area at the time of Mrs. Thompson's death. This incident, the deliberate shooting of a woman, non-combatant, following the British terrorist policy specifically directed against women activists in the Women's Action Committees and the Civil Disobedience Campaign; the object of the terrorist policy is of course, to crush the Civil Disobedience Campaign, and the detention of women without trial is likely to be introduced as part of this policy."

I.R.P.B. 13/11/1971

"(1) The Irish Republican Army did not offer money to the Catholic Ex-Servicemen to link up with the Republican Movement as was claimed by Mr Christopher O'Brien on a radio interview on November 10.

"(2) Any contact the IRA had with this body was aimed at getting them to drop their sectarian title and the sectarian basis of their organisation."

I.R.P.B. 16/11/1971

"The leadership of the Republican Movement wishes to make the following comment on the findings of the Compton Commission:

"(1) The Commission was never intended to be an impartial inquiry into charges of British brutality against internees. The object of the exercise was to whitewash the brutal conduct of British troops and produce a report to save the conscience of the British public.

"The Commission was forced to admit, however, that many internees suffered 'ill treatment' in the form of sandbag, noise and starvation treatment. No reference was made to the electrical treatment and the games of Russian Roulette practised on the prisoners.

"(2) The Republican Movement would welcome an inquiry by a team of internationally respected jurists. The findings of the Compton Commission highlights the need for such an investigation.

"Torturing by British troops is still going on in Palace Barracks, Holywood, Co Down and nothing short of a full exposure of the truth will shock the British public into disowning the infamous policy of their Government.

"The Irish Republican Army has compiled a list of names of those engaged in the torturing. Ruthless action will be taken against these people in due course."

ENGLISH M.P.'S VISIT

"(1) Ruairi Ó Bradaigh and I agreed to meet these M.P.'s on the understanding that our meeting with them would be treated in confidence. That confidence must have been broken by one of the M.P.'s concerned.

"(2) There was no question of our meeting the M.P.'s in the company of Cardinal O'Neill.

"(3) It was our intention to present the M.P.'s with copies of a statement issued by the leadership of the Republican Movement on

5th September last, that enumerated five points that could lead to the IRA temporarily suspending operations, these points were:

1. An immediate cessation to British Forces campaign of violence against Irish people.
2. Abolition of the Stormont parliament.
3. A guarantee of non-interference with a free election to establish a general parliament for the historic province of Ulster as a first step towards a new governmental structure for the 32 Counties.
4. Release of all Irish political prisoners tried and tried in England and Ireland.
5. A guarantee of compensation for all those who suffered as a result of direct and indirect British violence.

"(4) We agreed to this meeting in order to impress on these people that the only way to peace in Ireland and the only basis for normal relations between the Irish and British peoples is a practical political settlement consistent with the achievement of the full National objective. Such a settlement would of course involve both national and international guarantees of civil and religious liberties and equal rights and equal opportunities to all.

"(5) A compromise 'peace at any price' solution will not in fact bring peace to our troubled country as Ireland unfree will never be at peace."

More evidence of British Army torture in the Six Counties has come to light with the following statements given by relatives of men arrested during the past week or so:

1. Tony (Dutch) Doherty, (statement taken by his mother and wife).

He was taken to Girwood and given soup and tea, which were drugged. After drinking the tea he began to lose consciousness (on Tuesday November 9) and between Tuesday and Thursday he remained motionless but in terrible pain.

On Thursday he was taken to Crumlin Road and signed in. After about 30 minutes, Harry Taylor of the Special Branch arrived with a removal form from Stormont for Tony to be taken back to Girwood. He once again lost consciousness in Girwood and can only remember terrible pain.

On Saturday, November 13, he was rushed at about 5 pm in the evening back to Crumlin Road Jail. Dr Professor Lane from the Mater Hospital demanded to be allowed examine him. His report was that inwardly Tony was alright but that he was badly burned from the naval to his genitals. The soles of his feet are also badly burned.

When his mother was leaving him after a visit he fell while trying to stand up.

Tony also reported that Martin Mechan had 24 stitches in his head and that his stomach was ripped open with a bayonet, and that he also had fingers broken.

When four English TV men (from BBC "24 Hours") were interviewing Tony's wife, Marie, and his mother, soldiers rushed in and threatened to arrest them. The soldiers were led by the man who arrested Tony. After showing their passes the TV men were allowed continue the interview, but the programme was not shown.

2. Gerard McLoughlin (Alec), (statement taken by parents).

Was arrested with Michael Walsh at 122 Ardilea Street and both of them were taken to Palace Barracks, Holywood.

Gerard McLoughlin has surplus flesh on his stomach and was tortured by British soldiers who repeatedly twisted and pulled at the surplus flesh until the blood flowed from cuts on his stomach. He refused to drink the tea and the soup offered to him.

When he knocked over both the tea and the soup the soldiers made him wipe it up with a mop and they then beat him across the face with the mop. They called him a "typical fat Irish pig" and knocked him to the ground. While on the ground two soldiers urinated over him and they shouted "Now you smell like a pig also."

He was put sitting in front of a fire and held there for two hours. When he could not stick the heat any longer they threw him out into the yard and left him in the cold for one hour.

When he was brought back into the room he was practically falling asleep. Two soldiers grabbed his hands and beat them continuously off a concrete wall until they bled. He passed out and remembered no more until they dragged Michael Walsh's body out and the soldiers said: "That bastard has had it." The Special Branch panicked and brought in a doctor and a nurse and they revived Michael Walsh. The Special Branch man also said: "That's the second bastard that died today under interrogative." Gerard was brought to Crumlin Road on Saturday, November 13.

3. Michael Walsh, (statement from G McLoughlin):

Arrested with G McLoughlin and drugged with tea soup in Palace Barracks. On coming to, hose pipe put down his throat and water poured in. His heart stopped. Doctor and nurse had to pump out his lungs and massage his heart to revive him. He was badly beaten around the head and neck and does not remember what happened except being brought back to Crumlin Road.

**SIX MEN
ARRESTED IN
TRÁ LÍ**

Six members of Sinn Féin in Contae Chiarraí went to jail in Luminmeach recently rather than pay a fine for collecting funds for the North without a permit.

Four of them were from the Tra Lí area: Liam Cotter, a member of the Ard-Chionharles; P J Healy; Jerry O'Sullivan and Con O'Shea. The others were: Moss Falvey, Dromin and Dominick Kissane of Lushesharagh.

**Martin
Forsythe
Section
Leader**

Although only 19 years of age when he received a fatal bullet in the back while on active service on Sunday night, October 24, last, Section Leader Martin Forsythe of C. Coy., 1st Batt., Belfast Brigade IRA, was already a veteran of the war in Occupied Ireland.

At this time, it is impossible, for security reasons, to divulge the number of and type of operations he was actively associated with. It is enough to say that many young untried Volunteers are today battle-hardened veterans because of Marty's valour and leadership.

For a period he was responsible for the weapon and fieldcraft training of several sections of his unit. On numerous occasions he had assisted in the defence of his home estate, Turf Lodge, against armed attacks and aggression of the British Terrorists.

In the Battle of Turf Lodge entered into after the advent of internment he showed outstanding bravery. In this battle Marty and a small number of volunteers held 600 of Britain's elite, the Para's, at bay in a fight which lasted for over three hours, ending only with the coming of the dawn and the withdrawal of the enemy forces. The Para's casualties were so high that they have never been published.

Like so many others of the youth today Marty discarded the cinemas, dances and all other forms of entertainment, in order to be able to devote more time to the cause of Irish freedom and to allow himself to become more efficient in the task he had undertaken.

Guaidhimid sóid na bhFaithéas dá abram uasal. Thit sé ag troid ar son na cúise in ar chreid sé go daingean dílis. Thit sé go mbéadh Eire saor ó amnach Gall. Tá sé anois in measc na mílte a thit roimhe sa troid céanna. Ar dheisfáhm Dé go raibh sé,

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POWER TO THE PEOPLE

What is Dail Chonnacht?

Dail Chonnacht, when it is established, will be a Parliament of the people of Connacht elected by the people of Connacht. Situated in Tuam, it will be one of four regional parliaments for the four provinces of Ireland. The work of establishing Dail Uladh is already under way.

What is Sinn Fein's connection with Dail Chonnacht?

Regional governments are part of Sinn Fein's programme for the new Ireland. Consequently Sinn Fein supports the establishment of Dail Chonnacht and will be among the parties offering candidates for election to the new assembly.

What will Dail Chonnacht do?

It will provide a regional Government for Connacht, give Connacht people control over their own affairs, and bring public administration within easy reach of every citizen.

How will it bring public administration within easy reach of the citizens?

Firstly, most of the present powers of central government with respect to Connacht will be transferred to Tuam. Secondly, Dail Chonnacht will share its powers of government with the County Councils and with district councils in the County Electoral Districts. (At present there are 23 of the latter in Connacht).

Will there be a district council in every County Electoral District?

Yes, and a district administrative office. This office will handle all the minor matters of administration, licences, pensions, grants of various kinds, social assistance, planning permissions, vocational guidance, etc. In many cases where you now have to deal with a Dublin Department or the County Council, you will be able to do the same business directly "over the counter" in your local district office. Each of the Gaeltacht districts of Iar Chonnacht and Acla-Iorras will have its own local council and administration.

So the government services will be on three levels: for the province as a whole, for the county and for the district.

Yes. Most of the administrative work for Connacht now done by civil servants in Dublin will be done at these three levels of government in Connacht. The powers and functions of the County Councils will be expanded. All this will mean a lot of jobs of all kinds, from top professional and specialist posts to clerical employment. The regional government in Tuam will be in charge of the general affairs of the province as a whole, including economic development planning.

How will Dail Chonnacht be financed?

By regional taxation and by an annual budget allocation from central government. The counties will receive annual budget allocations from Dail Chonnacht.

Does a regional government mean another "partition" of Ireland or a "breakaway" from the Irish Republic?

Not at all. This is a cheap libel used by Dublin centralists every time regional government is proposed. It shows ignorance of the way other countries are governed. Italy has over 20 regional governments; so has Switzerland—which is half the size of Ireland. The U.S.A. has 53 self-governing states. West Germany has eleven.

Regional government is simply another and better way of structuring the Irish Republic.

What is the need for this new system of government?

The existing system of government has failed to provide good government in Connacht. By its fruits it stands condemned. Under the system of government which we have had for the last hundred years or so, Connacht has been declining continually. Its population has been falling, its communities disintegrating. Its best brains, its most ambitious and energetic people have been drained away for lack of opportunities at home. Under the British regime, and the Irish regime which followed it, many attempts have been made by the Dublin administration to stop Connacht's decline.

In what ways is it a bad system of government?

Virtually all decision-making in regard to Connacht occurs in Dublin at a distance of 100-200 miles from most of the province. No depressed region in Europe has ever been "revived" by such a method. It is government by remote control. All the decision-making for Connacht, even to the closing of primary schools and the approval of water schemes, has been taking place in Dublin. The County and Urban Councils have been tied hand and foot by the Dublin civil service. They have seen many of their functions pass away from them. The present system causes wasteful delays and costly mistakes.

Does everyone in Connacht believe that the present system of government is all wrong?

Not at all. Over the years, the people of Connacht have lost confidence in themselves. Many of them actually believe that outsiders, living far away, can run the affairs of Connacht better than Connachta could. They believe this despite all the evidence to the contrary. Only if they change their minds—only if they believe that Connachta, given the same resources, could make a better job of Connacht than the Dublin civil service—will Dail Chonnacht get off the ground. The 19 members of Comhairle Chonnacht believe in Connacht and the people of Connacht. Do you?

Can the people of Connacht change the present system of government and win control over their own affairs?

Yes, by supporting Comhairle Chonnacht and helping to establish Dail Chonnacht.

Who will decide the policies of Dail Chonnacht?

The people whom you elect to it.

Who will tell Dail Chonnacht, its County Councils and its District Councils what they should do?

You.

A steering committee of eighteen members to be known as Comhairle Chonnacht was set up in the Imperial Hotel, Tuam, Co na Gaillimhe recently to draft the rules and regulations for the formation of Dail Chonnacht. More than 200 delegates expressed strong support for the ideal of regional government for the province.

Among those present to explain the idea to the delegates were Peadar MacGaoithin, Runai, Comhairle Uladh; Aodh O Luais of Comhairle Uladh; Ruairi O Braadh, Uachtaran Sinn Fein; Deasun O Fionnaile, Carna and the President of the Christian Democratic Party of Ireland, Mr Sean D Loftus who pledged his support for the ideal.

The following members were elected to Comhairle Chonnacht:

MAIGH EÓ: Tadhg Hastings, Cathair na Mart; Caoimhin MacCathmhaoil, Beal Atha na Muice; Thomas Gibbons, Crossmolina; Seamas O Mangan, Beal Atha na Muice; and Vincent Maycock, Laterdane.

GAILLIMH: Colm Stapleton, Tuam; Sean O Cuinneagáin, Killenadna; Jackie Clarke, Greagh; Mairéad Uí Donnagáin, Breathnach, Caherlistrane; Maire Bean Uí Fhionnaile, Carna and Maire Bean Uí Chearbhalláin, Cill Chiarain.

ROSCOMAN: Frank Beatty, Rahera; Sean Gately, Curraghboy; Labhras Noone, Bealach a' Doirn.

LIATROIM: Peadar O Griofa, Drumshanbo; John Joe McGil, Ballinamore.

SLEIGH CH: John Gallagher, Tobar a' Choire;

Michael Mooney, Slieach.

In his address Ruairi O Braadh said that history was being made in Uladh today and those involved in the struggle must have the support and guidance of the people throughout Ireland. This was not saying that an effort was being made to extend the 26-County system to the 32 Counties. The concept of regional Dala originally emanated from the Army Council of the I.R.A. but it was up to the people themselves to take up the proposal if they wanted a better system of government.

It was obvious, he said, that the present system failed when the population of Dun na nGall, Galban and Muineachan could be allowed to drop from 300,000 in 1926 to 200,000 in 1971, while in the same period the population of Connacht fell from 553,000 to 390,000—a loss in each case of over 30 per cent.

What was needed immediately were good social and economic policies which would revitalise the province, but no matter how good these were they could not be implemented under the present system of government. "Whatever policies are produced today are invariably so watered down by the Civil Service as to make them unrecognisable and the only way this can be prevented is to change the system entirely," he said.

Continuing he said that Dail Chonnacht was not a policy, but a structure. It was something which belonged to the people and it was a most important step towards the evolution of a new system of regional government with a single federal parliament.

Deasun O Fionnaile (Carna) emphasised that he was not a member of Sinn Fein or any political party but he believed in regional government because it was clearly evident that there was no district in any European country with a prosperous economy if it was more than 200 miles from the seat of government.

After the Norman invasion the seat of power in Ireland was transferred to the trading settlements in Baile Atha Cliath. The establishment of Dail Chonnacht was the first step towards reversing the situation and it was fitting it was being done in Tuam, which was the last Gaelic capital of Ireland during the reign of King Ruairi O Conchubhair.

Continuing, an tUasal O Fionnaile said "that the wheel had now turned full circle and we were back at the point before the conquest, and the dismantling of the structure left to us by British rule was under way."

"The criterion of good government is that people should prosper and it must be held that equally the criterion of bad government is when society is utterly destroyed by emigration and poverty. I have watched the humiliation to which ordinary citizens have been subjected in seeking their just dues. It is nonsense to suggest that we are a democracy — we are administered subjects of a bureaucracy," he added.

He said that the gap in economic growth between Connacht and the rest of Ireland was continually growing. It was not enough to put in new factories, increase the dole or give

bigger grants. The solution needed was as much political as commercial and the monopoly of political and commercial power that now existed in Dublin would have to be broken.

Peadar MacGaoithin, Runai, Comhairle Uladh said that the new structure was the only one which could guarantee equality of rights to all shades of political opinion and religious denominations. In Dail Uladh the Protestant majority of that province would be able to decide on their own affairs and nobody was objecting to this. It was the one system of government which would alleviate the Protestants of the fear of being swamped by a 32-County government dominated by the Hierarchy. In their minds this was a very real fear.

Aodh O Luais (Ard Macha) said that Dail Uladh and Dail Chonnacht were not fronts for the I.R.A.

Caoimhin MacCathmhaoil advocated the mounting by Dail Chonnacht of a major campaign against E.E.C. entry and to back Western fishermen in their fight to protect off-shore fishing grounds. He also proposed the setting up of a series of information offices which could double as trade missions in both the United States and Britain to try and improve the economy of the Western counties.

With a federation between Dail Uladh and Dail Chonnacht the possibility of setting up a volunteer corps to prevent destruction of roads could be investigated and a defence directory compiled, he said.

KERRY NORTHERN AID

The needs of prisoners' dependents in the Occupied Area are increasing and continuing, said Donnchadh MacGerailt, Runai of Kerry Northern Aid Committee in a statement issued by him recently. Every penny collected for Northern Aid goes to alleviate the sufferings of our people in the Six Counties, he said. The following is the full text of the statement:

"At the outset, the trustees wish to express sincere gratitude to all those generous people who have subscribed — many of them more than once. If collectors seem persistent — and they cannot be praised highly enough for their labours at this not very pleasant job — may we plead that the needs of our people in the North are so great. Furthermore, those needs are not just passing ones. They continue, and are increasing, as British Occupation Forces wage on our Northern people the war which the British Home Secretary, Maundling, declared on them.

"We would like to make it clear that every penny collected for Northern Aid commands a special position of respect in our communities, have cast aspersions on the characters of decent men, who have not spared themselves at the task of collecting funds.

"We would remind such critics that these men who collect are following in the worthy tradition begun by Mrs Tom Clarke after 1916, when she organised the National Aid Association. Present-day critics of the Northern Aid Fund should ask themselves if they wish to be identified with the type of people who questioned the purpose of Mrs Clarke and of the many others who followed her example, down through the years since 1916.

"There is one final matter which we wish to bring to the notice of the public. In Tralee — after a lapse of six months — eight men were prosecuted and fined for collecting for Northern Aid. Recently 19 men were similarly prosecuted and fined in Listowel. Further

prosecutions are pending in other parts of Kerry. Their crime in the eyes of the 26-County authorities is that they sought aid for our goes to alleviate the sufferings of our people in the Six Counties. It goes to help the families which have lost their breadwinners by death or disablement, by internment, or by jailing at the whim of a British soldier or policeman.

"To date more than 240 men have gone into the Long Kesh concentration camp. More than 1,000 others have been jailed for at least six months because some member of the Occupation Forces was prepared to swear that they were acting 'disorderly'."

"Hundreds more have had to go on the run to avoid internment. Wives and children, aged parents and other dependents suffer hardship and privation because their menfolk are true to the cause of Irish unity. Surely every spark of nationality — not to mention Christianity — which we have, calls on us to help our own people in their dire struggle.

"It is regrettable — not to put it any stronger — that there are some in our midst who have not scrupled to question the purpose of those who collect for Northern Aid. Some, who persecuted people in the North — in places where collections can be made at will for any and every purpose, on every weekend and holiday occasion.

"A feature of the Faulkner regime in the North, in the days before internment, was the selective jailing of Catholic Nationalists on any allegation of 'disorderly' behaviour or 'insubordination'. Are we to see similar tactics used in the 26-Counties, to put away those who try to aid in the struggle against tyranny in the North? As another of the fruits of his Chequers conference, does Mr Lynch think he can get away with a modern version of the British-created 'Cat and Mouse Act,' while the people of the South stand idly by?"

An Phoblacht

IMLEABHAR 2 UIMHIR 12 (Sraith Nuir)

TREACHERY

The following is a statement from the Irish Republican Publicity Bureau received 22/11/71.

Cathal Goulding's statement to an English Sunday Newspaper, that the Northern resistance campaign cannot succeed is nothing less than an act of collaboration with the enemy, it is a stab in the back for the men and the women who daily risk life, limb and liberty to continue the struggle against British imperialism.

The statement shows that Goulding is completely out of touch with the Northern situation and that he has learned absolutely nothing from the events of the past 2 1/2 years. His latest statement is of course in keeping with the vile slander that enemies from Gardiner Placé in vain attempts to discredit the real Republican Movement.

The leadership and members of the resistance movement are determined that come what may the present struggle will be successful and accordingly it will continue until British Rule has been overthrown and the full Republican objective achieved.

We believe that the only way to achieve that objective is armed struggle, backed up by popular resistance and to this end we shall continue to direct all our effort.

P. O'Neill
Runai
I.R.P.B.

The Free State and Stormont were conceived, born and sustained in treachery. Compromise solutions have always brought with them misery and we have suffered 50 years of misery as a result of the 1921 compromise and the treachery of those who continued the sell-out of the Republican goal.

The people of Ireland are now being brainwashed to accept another compromise, another sell-out. Wilson and Heath are acting in concert to bring this about and Leinster House politicians in their welcome for the so-called Wilson solution have been very quiet on the invitation to rejoin Her Imperial Majesty's "commonwealth." Our answer, Ireland's answer is NO, writ large.

Our demands have been set out as have our proposals for bringing about a just peace and settlement. Let Britain withdraw her military and financial presence from our soil and Irishmen will settle their differences. The Republican Movement has offered the ideal of regional parliaments in which the interests of all sections of the Irish community will be safeguarded and guaranteed.

THE GREAT ESCAPE

No man, no government, could either break or bend him, Padraig MacPiarais wrote of Diarmuid O Donnabhain Rossa in 1915. Neither man, nor governments, intimidation, brutality, internment, jailings, torture or death itself can break or bend the men and women who today, as in previous generations, follow faithfully the path woven by Rossa and his fellow Fenians.

During the past month the struggle in Occupied Ireland continued unabated and despite bombastic lying statements from Faulkner and his oppressor friends the tide of battle continues to flow in favour of the Freedom Fighters and the people they seek to free. British prestige continues to take a battering. Even the much-vaunted Compton Report which it was hoped would whitewash over the global opprobrium brought on by British terror has boomeranged on to the Imperialists and has been exposed to the world for the fraud it is.

But perhaps the incident which most indicated the futility of the regime of terror in Occupied Ireland recently was the escape of nine men from Crumlin Road Jail in Beal Feirste. We salute the seven men who escaped from the clutches of their oppressors; we salute the many brave people who played their part in helping these men to freedom and we join together in regretting the re-capture of the other two victims of British terror in their bid for freedom.

But freedom will be theirs as sure as day follows night. Freedom from English terror, torture and jails will come to each and all of the hundreds now incarcerated. Nothing will now impede the onward march to freedom of a risen people.

CURRENT COMMENT

TYRE DUMPING

Cork Council of Trade Unions is concerned at "Short Time" in Cork Dunlop Factory... WHY? — dumping of Japanese tyres. Government told Unions an embargo to be put on this dumping — subsequently Union told: "The Government can not see its way clear to agree to such a course of action."

Sidney, Australia — Sunshine, Mr Dermot Ryan, top member F.F. and TACA, arrives for Tourist Congress, praises the British Army (The lobsterbacks): "They are the only way of preserving peace while the right solution to Ireland's problems is being found" — No mention of our own murdered people by the "lobsterbacks" — his final insolence: condemns Senator Edward Kennedy's statement on our Northern struggle.

The connection between tyre dumping and Mr Dermot Ryan — simple: he owns the sole right for importation to Ireland of Japanese tyres.

OUR COMMENT

Will such as Ryan work for more houses, better education, for the small farmer, for a real medical service, for us to speak our own language — the laugh of the year.

R.T.E.

You probably have often sung them — "The Old Fenian Gun", "Lonely Woods of Upton", "The Tricoloured Ribbon", "You will not hear them on R.T.E. British Pressure Works in Devious Ways.

I.T.A.

Authority banned a showing of "World in Action" dealing with the I.R.A. — the Authority neither read the script or saw a viewing of the film. Stated the Association of Cinematograph and Television Technicians: "There is no precedent for such a ban in the whole history of Independent Television."

OUR COMMENT

Britain hopes to make history repeat itself by surrounding Ireland with not only a paper wall but a Radio and TV wall. This way Britain can try to present to the world her picture of the North — IT WILL NOT WORK! Sing the songs whenever you can; write to the papers asking why the Ban. Above all support your own paper — sell more — write in your ideas — it is your paper.

THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT

One child in six in Ireland is now "Deprived." Why? —

because the father of the family is out of work. This year redundancies have run at more than double last year's rate. Dr Birch, The Bishop of Ossory states: "There are basic problems of the economy that will have to be looked into — and in the long run we will have to set up a State where all the people can live their lives in dignity. The A.T.G.W.U. are seeking an urgent inquiry into the administration of Industrial Grants — An American light Engineering factory set up on the Waterford Industrial Estate received in grants £52,777 out of an agreed grant of £97,700 — it has no orders — now all employees are redundant — sacked — this pattern of receiving grants and then closing is taking place all over Ireland — thus one child in six is "deprived."

OUR COMMENT

"SINN FEIN" — as a Nation we have ample natural resources to give our people a full life — it's in "Eire Nua." READ IT — WORK FOR IT — FIGHT FOR IT.

THE S.A.S.

A hush hush unit of the British Army — originally formed during the second World War for behind the line activities — now used as "anti-subversives" — used in Palestine, Aden etc. — they are used to infiltrate organisations — to cause explosions and deaths in such a way as to cause the blame to fall on what they

term 'subversives'. Great emphasis is placed on intelligence and interrogation, and this includes torture. They are past masters in the knowledge of those parts of the body — both male and female — where most agony can be produced — most quickly: putting a tube down a man's throat and putting more water in him than he could ever drink, then hit him hard in the stomach; put a hearing aid in a man's ear — turn it on full blast and fire pistol shots near the side of his head. If there is time, psychological tricks can be tried — a fake photograph of the detainee's wife indulging in sexual orgies with British soldiers; dis-orientation — to make a detainee lose all sense of time, all faith, to make him feel less than an animal and treat him as such; — electric shocks — and on and on — all these and more have been used in "Palace Barracks." Possibly on a friend of yours.

OUR COMMENT

The regular British Army was raised in the 17th Century with one of its two main reasons for existence being "The defence of the Protestant Religion," coupled with "Suppression of the Irish." Treble your efforts working for the Republican Movement until every last British soldier is off Irish soil and all the animals in the S.A.S. tried and convicted.

'EDENTUBBER

A COMMEMORATION ceremony at Edentubber, where five Volunteers were killed in an explosion in 1957 was held on Sunday. There was an attendance of about 4,000.

Mr Joe Cahill, the Belfast I.R.A. leader, said that those who opposed or condemned them would be crushed. One man who came to his mind and who typified the people who in the last 50 years had stood aside and had stabbed in the back the genuine Republicans was a gentleman by the name of Colley and it was because people like him had stood aside that they had the present terrible situation in the country.

"I say on behalf of the fighting men and women of Northern Ireland 'No, Mr. Colley, the I.R.A. will not stand aside.'"



Oliver Craven

MARTYRS'



George Keegan



Michael Watters



Paddy Parle



Paul Smith

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Special Christmas cards with coloured picture of Last Stand for sending to political prisoners and internees in Long Kesh are now available from 2A, Lr. Kevin Street, Dublin 8. Political message on inside cover of card from Sean MacStiofain:

Beannachtai na Nollag dar gcónaíthe uilig ata fe dhara na nGall. "Se ar ngai go mbeidh sibse agus Eire saor um an dtaca seo arís. Nollag 1971.

NUAIGHT

LONDON

The Annual General Meeting of the Wolfe Tone Cumann was held at 5, Hightate Road, Kentish Town, London N.W.5 on the 5th Nov. 1971. Full membership was in attendance and the election of Officers to serve for the forthcoming year resulted: Cathaoirleach — C. de Bruin. Leas Cathaoirleach — S O Fitzcheallaigh. Runai — S O Loingsigh. Leas Runai — P MacAindriú. Cisteoir — P O'Croidheain.

CORCAIGH

Cork Volunteers (Provisional) Pipe Band have issued an appeal to all Republicans for subscriptions to buy instruments. Presents of bagpipes, drums or practice chanters will also be welcomed and can be sent to S O Murchu, 64 Blarney Street, Corcaigh.

GAILLIMH

Cumann Antoine Ui Dhorchaíde, Sinn Fein, Gaillimh, thank the people for the support given to Northern Aid. These funds will be used, the Cumann states, "to alleviate our suffering brothers and sisters" and "will not be used for Free State electioneering or for the dissemination of alien philosophies."

A member of the Cumann, Stiofan O Casaidé, Sraid an Che, Gaillimh, was issued with summonses to appear before a Free State court during November.

FIANNA ANNUAL DRAW

The Fianna Eireann Annual Christmas Draw will take place this year at the Cumann Cabhrach Sale of Work in the Mansion House, on December 10, 1971. Line cards are still available from Fianna Director of Finance, Simon O'Duibhíhaille, 136, Bangor Road, Crumlin, Baile Atha Cliath.

DUN DEALGAN

The following officers were elected at the annual General Meeting of the Goss & Gaughran Sinn Fein Cumann, Dun Dealgan: John MacArdle — Chairman; Deirdre Donnelly — Secretary; Mrs McArdle — Ass. Secretary; Mrs Finn — Treasurer; Mrs Shields — Ass. Treasurer; Francis Browne — P.R.O.; Niall Mulligan — Ass. P.R.O.

The Chairman welcomed all new members into the Cumann, and also congratulated the Officer Board on their very successful work during the year. The meeting was very well attended.

NO CONNECTION

Irish people in London should note that there is no connection whatsoever between the Republican Movement and a group known as the Northern Minority Defence Force.

We again emphasise that Liam O'Callaghan of London, a native of Rath Luirc, Co. Chorcaigh, is not connected in any way with the Republican Movement and has not been connected with the Movement for the past 20 years.

People in England wishing to join the Republican Movement should contact: Tom McEilistair, 27 Swanage Road, London S.W.18, or telephone: 01-874-4656.