

CIVIL RIGHTS GUARDIAN

VOL. 1
NO. 3.

10p

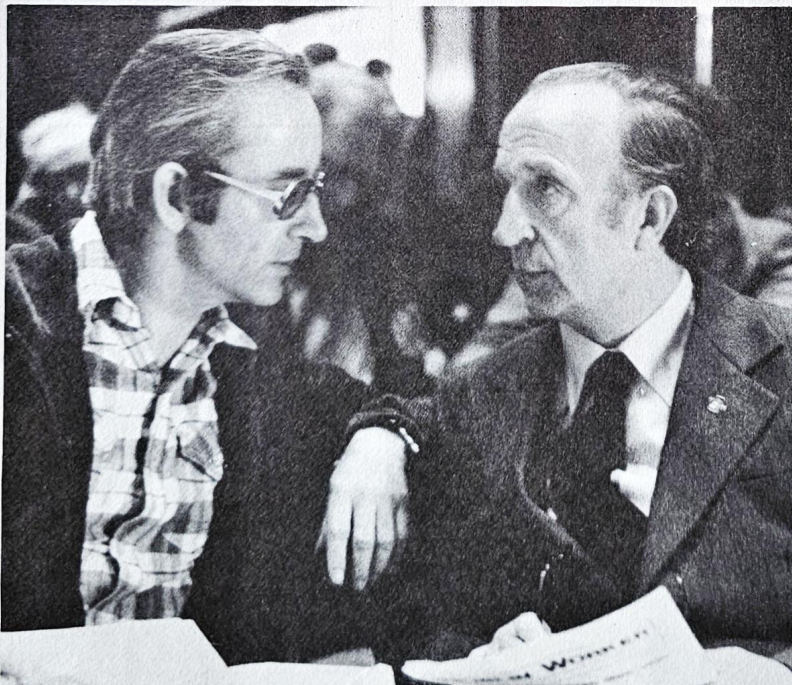
ORGAN OF THE IRISH CIVIL RIGHTS ACTION LEAGUE

LABOUR'S CAUSE BETRAYED

THERE COULD be nothing more ironic in the Presidency of Dr. Hillary than his unveiling of the statue of Jim Larkin in O'Connell St., on a summer evening when in the very shadow of that statue Dublin workers were picketing outside McDonald's American restaurant, demanding the right of TRADE UNION recognition.

Meanwhile MacDonald's were getting the full backing of the state — constant police protection, injunction after injunction in The High Court bringing in more and more restrictions against the picketers. The state back McDonald's, so that McDonald's can break the union.

In this year, when Jim Larkin is being honoured one would expect a strong militant reaction from the entire trade union movement against this challenge to the most fundamental of their principles. This has been sadly lacking. People like Michael Mullen have on occasion presented themselves on the picket line. One public meeting was held on a Sunday morning. Nothing progressive comes out of token support. No real attempt has been made to do anything really effective, like blacking all firms and carriers bringing goods into McDonalds.



John Carroll and Michael Mullen, leaders of the Union involved in the dispute at McDonalds.

SAWN-OFF JUSTICE

DISTRICT JUSTICE O'HAIDAIGH is well known for the way in which he laces his judgements and convictions with sarcasm that he alone seems to think is great fun.

The Prisoners Rights Organisation carried out a survey of Mr. O'hauidagh's recent remarks. The following is typical of what they had to report:—

- (1) To a woman without a solicitor, who pleaded not guilty. "If you were never in court before you'll have a job proving it".
- (2) To a solicitor who said he was not on the Free Legal Aid Panel. "You're a very wise man".
- (3) To a man who called witnesses in support of his complaint about being beaten by a guard. "The lady says there was blood on the prisoner... one would think it was the battle of Waterloo... if a guard exceeds his duty, well, everyone exceeds his duty. No-one is infalliable. Everyone makes mistakes".
- (4) To a professional man: "If you come back here again, you'll go to jail and your career will be finished".
- (5) But then to an unfortunate drug addict: "I don't pretend to understand drugs. But then I don't have to. It's against the law. Six months.
- (6) To a man convicted of drunken driving: "Many people in Ireland are hard-drinkers, and it's nothing to be ashamed of".
- (7) But then when it came to the turn of a poor old wino "Mountjoy is the best place in the country for drying out. Six months".
- (8) To a psychiatrist: "I'm of the opinion that half the doctors who testify before the courts ought to be locked up.

To an itinerant "You people would be better off in the grass out in the country".

To a solicitor "I don't accept that environment has anything to do with crime."

We hope Mr. O'hauidagh will have a look at this mirror of his behaviour on the bench and get down to the fundamental principle of the Proclamation which requires that all the children of the Nation be treated equally.

"It is not socialism, but capitalism that is opposed to religion; capitalism is social cannibalism, the devouring of man by man, and under capitalism, those who have the most of the pious attributes, which are required for a truly deeply religious nature are the greatest failures and the heaviest sufferers."

— JAMES CONNOLLY.

LABOUR'S CAUSE BETRAYED

The pussyfooting has already gone too far. At least one member who wants to do more than pussyfoot has been expelled from the union.

Worst of all, an affidavit submitted to the High Court is surely enough to make Jim Larkin turn in his grave. The following is an extract from that affidavit:—

"I, John Burke, Trade Union Official of Liberty Hall, in the City of Dublin, aged twenty-one years and upwards hereby make oath and say as follows:

"I say and believe that subsequent to the making of an order by this Honourable Court on the 9th day of April 1979, a direction was given by me to all persons picketing on the premises of the Plaintiff Company at Grafton St., and O'Connell St., Dublin, respectively to picket peacefully and not to exceed three picketers on any picket, and that such picket was to cease at 10p.m. each night. Furthermore, I say, and believe that a Roster was prepared in respect of pickets to be carried out on both of the Plaintiff's premises AND IN FACT COPIES OF THESE POSTERS WERE SUBMITTED TO THE GARDAI SIOCHANA AT STORE ST., DUBLIN...

"I say and believe that I informed the Defendant's that they could not participate in any picket out the Plaintiff's premises...

"I say and believe that the Gardai were informed immediately of an anticipated mass picketing or demonstrations. I informed the Gardai of a demonstration that was anticipated to take place on Saturday, 14/6/1979...

"Subsequent to WRITING to the Gardai, I went to the picket which was placed outside the Plaintiff's premises at O'Connell St., Dublin on 16/6/1979 where I met a sergeant of the Garda Siochana accompanied by two Gardai, and I informed them that I had HEARD RUMOURS of a mass picket taking place that afternoon. I was now formally instructing the official picket to withdraw until 3 p.m. on that date... I had written to the Superintendent of the Garda Siochana at Store Street on the previous day informing him of my intention and course of action. I then proceeded to the Plaintiff's premises at Grafton Street, Dublin, and removed the picket there until 3 p.m. for FEAR there might be any demonstration in Grafton Street.

"I am informed and believe that Mr. Thomas White; Branch Official of The Number Four Branch of the Union notified the Gardai of an anticipated demonstration on the 9th day of June 1979...

"I say and believe that it was decided by the Branch Committee to hold a protest march on Sunday 17/6/1979... I notified the Garda Superintendent at Store Street approximately one week before the march and obtained his permission".

Sworn this 25th day of June at Four Courts in the city of Dublin before a Commissioner for Oaths.

John Burke.

Giles Montgomery,
Commissioner for Oaths.

The attitude of one of the mass picketers who broke the Union rules is best summed up in the following lines which he wrote on learning of the above affidavit:—

THE TREACHERY

*On the picket line I wore out shoes
And I pay my Union dues
I walked long hours and lost some sweat
I bear no malice or regret
It's better that I not forget
The Treachery.*

*It should never be forgiven or forgotten
The plans inside the One Big Union
Are really bad and really rotten.*

*It's full of bosses rats
Who crawl to police and state
And who bow to all injunctions
By the courts of this free! state
The One Big Union you will recall
Was Larkin's and Connolly's dream
If they were to be alive to-day
They would shout and loudly scream
The Treachery.*

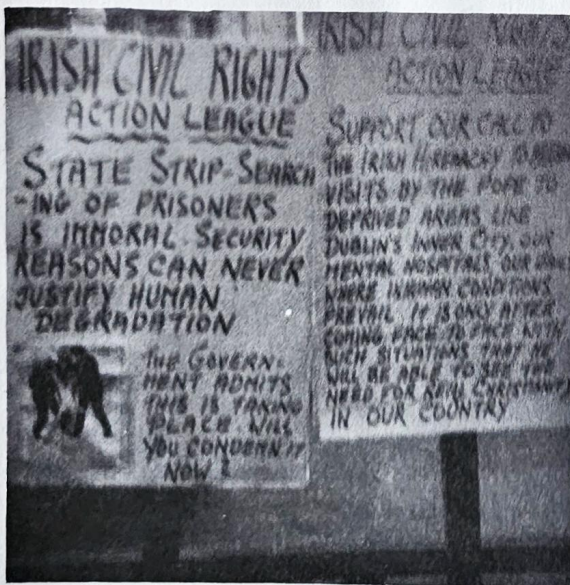
*With 150,000 members
And only 3 at a time
It will take another few years yet
On McDonald's picketline
When the strikers mauled by police and state
And the secret agents of McDonald's hate
Will establish a just and Golden Gate
On McDonald's picket line
One day the worker's will be free
When they open their eyes and clearly see
The Treachery.*

JOIN IRISH CIVIL RIGHTS ACTION LEAGUE

— it's the best way to serve your country.

Contact:—

The Secretary, I.C.R.A.L.,
9 Turret Road, Palmerstown,
Dublin 20. 'Phone 365898.



Posters on display at the Civil Rights Centre G.P.O. Dublin.



Billy Johnson is one of many residents from the Turf Lodge Road, Belfast, who have to put wire cages over their windows to prevent English soldiers firing stones through them during the hours of darkness.

The inhumanity of H-Block continues

ONE YEAR has passed since Cardinal O'Fiach's visit to the notorious H. Blocks of the Longkesh Concentration Camp where he talked with the prisoners incarcerated therein. The day following his visit Cardinal O'Fiach issued a detailed statement commencing with..... "On this my second visit as Archbishop to Longkesh, I was also aware of the grave concern of the Holy See at the situation that has arisen in the prison, and I wanted to be able to provide the Holy See with a factual account of the present position of all the prisoners there, something which I shall do without delay. Having spent the whole of Sunday in the prison I was shocked by the inhuman conditions prevailing in the H. Blocks 3, 4, 5, where over 300 prisoners are incarcerated. One would hardly allow an animal to remain in such conditions let alone a human being. The nearest I have seen was the spectacle of hundreds of homeless people living in sewer pipes in the slums of Calcutta. The stench and filth in some of the cells, with the remains of rotten food and human excreta scattered around the walls, was almost unbearable. In two of them I was unable to speak for fear of vomiting".

NO IMPROVEMENT

There has been no improvement in the conditions of the H.Blocks since that visit. Instead beatings have escalated — food has been reduced to a bare minimum to sustain life only — and in general conditions have simply deteriorated.

Four months after Cardinal O'Fiach's visit, Michael O'Kennedy, Minister of Foreign Affairs for the 'FREE' State Government, in answer to a question raised in Leinster House by Neil Blaney, said that he had no knowledge of ill treatment of prisoners in the H.Blocks, and if specific cases were brought to his attention he would act thereon. He conveniently omitted to reveal that relatives of the Blanket Men have continually acquainted Government ministers with those specific facts of which he claimed not to have in his possession. Immediately following his 'Promise' in Leinster House, yet more relatives, friends and clerics supplied him with yet further information regarding the brutalities inflicted upon the prisoners. His inactions to date have only served to result in further infringement of the Human Rights of now 400 Blanket prisoners bravely defying England's attempts to criminalise the Northern Conflict. O'Kennedy's silence has of course been blatantly accompanied by the silence of his Leinster House colleagues and by

Jack Lynch Primeminister of a State which, in its Constitution still claims jurisdiction over the Six North Eastern Counties of this island, where the human rights of the 'citizens of the Constitution' are daily violated by the military puppets and hired servants of the British Government.

TEN TIMES AS MANY PRISONERS

Ten years ago, before British military intervention in the North East, the total number of persons imprisoned within the entire Six Counties numbered approximately 300. Today, the prison population, numbering approx, 3,000, represents a fairly sizeable proportion of the Norths community, and considering that the welfare of each prisoner concerns his or her relatives, friends and neighbours, the question of the prisoners therefore directly involves an alarmingly high percentage of the overall population. The drastic increase in the number of prisoners over the past decade is not attributed to an abnormal upsurge in criminal activity, but indeed to the Conflict within the North East.

Detailed research into the '1,000%' increase in 'Crime' has produced irrefutable evidence that the men and women today incarcerated in Longkesh, Crumlin and Armagh prisons, do not possess Criminal backgrounds but instead have been charged with incidents relating to the Conflict — convicted in the Norths Special Courts, in many cases the only evidence being a Special Confession extracted from the prisoner in the notorious Castlereagh interrogation Centre.

BRUTALITY CONTINUES

As the Blanket protesters continue their heroic struggle, the British and their Prison Regime continue their struggle to break the Protest and thus finally criminalise the Conflict in the last part of the decayed British Empire. During the past year, since the Cardinal's visit, brutality has been continually used by the Prison Authorities against the prisoners. As we go to Press information has just reached us from the H. Blocks.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED

AS FOLLOWS:-

H.4. A number of prisoners have again been badly assaulted by Screws. Those who suffered the worst effects of this latest onslaught were:-
Pat McCabe - Beechmount - Belfast,
Robert Kerr - New Lodge - Belfast,
Paul McKenna - Lower Falls - Belfast,
Martin Lawlor - Beechmount - Belfast,
H.6. A serious problem now exists within the cells, where, because of heavy sheeting placed across cell windows allowing practically no natural light in the cells,

heavy condensation has added to the misery of the cell conditions.

H.3. Wardens have now resorted to yet further harassment of the prisoners, by opening cell doors and sliding the prisoners plate of food rations on to the already filthy floor of cell.

Similar beatings also occurring as those in H.4.

P.B. One young prisoner G. Clarke - Ardoyne - Belfast has just completed 3 days in Punishment Block having been removed there following an assault on his person by a number of wardens.. When leaving P.B. he was forceably washed and shaved by wardens.

TIME TO ADMIT GUILT

Cardinal O'Fiach has already, while Archbishop, expressed his opinions of the H.Blocks, an expression of condemnation unforgiveably ignored by the Fianna Fail Government of this part of our island. As our Parliamentary leaders prepare to welcome HIS Holiness Pope Paul to Ireland, we wonder if their lack of Christian Charity towards the H.Block prisoners and towards the Northern peoples Conflict in general, shall perhaps stab their minds with guilt, and as they greet the Leader of the Catholic Church shall they remember their own disregard for the plea made one year ago by a now Cardinal of the Church, on behalf of the H. Block Prisoners.

OPEN LETTER TO MR. PADRAIC FAULKNER T.D. MINISTER FOR POSTS & TELEGRAPHS, DAIL EIREANN, DUBLIN.

Sir,

For many years Radio Telefis Eireann has engaged Mr. John Taylor as a spokesman on The North, and this at the present time also when Representatives of The Catholic Community are denied access to The Government Controlled Media.

Following the incitement speech of Mr. John Taylor when he advised Loyalist Paramilitaries to take revenge in The Republic of Ireland; are we to suffer again his pontificating on The Government Controlled Media? If I hear him on Radio Eireann again or see him on Telefis Eireann I will understand this as an indication that you, like the Official Unionist Party, condone and approve of his incitement.

Una Toal (Mrs.)

Fish and Fisheries

Over the years a theory which was held by few and a belief which was held by less has become a reality, and the rapidity of realisation—that fish stocks are expendable—has not kept pace with the destructive potential in man, who has until now advanced and lived by the belief that “there are more fish in the sea than ever came out of it”.

It is dangerous to believe that realisation has, in fact, dawned, and that man fully appreciates that his existence depends on the co-existence of what sustains him. If we can bend our destructive potential and innate power against destructive practices and advances we can halt decline—but until man concedes that ultimate fulfilment can only be achieved by mutual considerations it is useless to proceed other than with the hope that one's efforts will force a halt to destructive advance.

Through lack of foresight and vision a problem of major dimensions has developed in respect of an essential to continued existence—an item of food known as fish. The problem is not local—it is worldwide—and a realistic approach by a maritime nation could pioneer a world move to preserve a product of nature and preserve with it the medium through which other necessities and amenities can be obtained—employment and the fruits of employment. The lead in this realistic approach must come from the Government department whose responsibility it is, and steps must be taken without delay to set up an independent or separate Ministry to shoulder the responsibility and co-ordinate the efforts of all involved, and by realistic directive evolve a constructive fisheries policy with the national interests first.

This policy must involve the entire range of affected interests and primary consideration given to what will provide a continuous source of supply, its protection, and its continuing potential.

The imperial urge which has become exhausted on land has now been extended to the sea and the sea-bed, and in the process, the creatures who live there are suffering the same fate as did their counterparts on land, to satisfy the greed of man for transitory benefits. The insane lust in man to hunt fish into extinction is indicative of his purpose in life—to obtain material benefits in the short term—and fish have as great a chance of survival in the long term as a field of potatoes over a vein of gold now that oil and minerals are becoming more scarce and more valuable on land, and prospecting on the ocean floor is proving fruitful. It may not be a long cry away from the day when a fillet of fish will be a rare and a very expensive item on an Irish table, and the progressive decline in landings bears witness to depletion of stocks—despite sophisticated methods of fishing.

All of our landings have been taken from inshore waters and it is in this area our efforts must be bent, to hold, nurse, nourish and protect what is ours by right—and a fifty-mile totally exclusive zone is the absolute minimum required to protect the life-cycle of the species in our waters.

Destructive practices from within will have to be handled as ruthlessly as marauders from without and outlets which provide excuse for destructive practices made illegal before any hope can be entertained for the future of Irish fishing.

The existing structures, both at Departmental level and at Bord Iascaigh Mhara will need to be torn down and replaced by a unit which combines the functions of both, with a positive aim replacing a negative policy.

The condition into which our fishing industry has fallen is justification for condemnation of those entrusted with its welfare. Their record is one of ineptitude, inertia and indifference, with periodic attempts at self-justification by painting false fronts of achievement and potential to avid listeners who do not seek the truth, nor see it in the reality which is now apparent—that the fishing industry is in Stubbs Gazette.

A chronicle of costs and bankrupt boat-owners, together with the abandonment of research; the absence of adequate fishery protection vessels, and the purchase of foreign-built fishing boats are but a few indications of the absence of responsibility either in direction or administration. These are facts—not imaginations.

The lure of big turnover for big catch—without a quota control which, in any event could only be operated effectively to control daily landings and could not be made effective on fleets transferring their catches to carrier and factory ships at sea—has developed the trawl into a sophisticated weapon against which fish cannot survive when used in conjunction with equally sophisticated location devices.

Serious consideration must be given to the effect of this method of fishing—I will not deal here with more destructive methods used in other waters—and serious consideration given to the prohibition of trawling.

The strict enforcement of men's laws but have long been abandoned to create could contribute to conservation in their observation; but these regulations territorial limits where offal and in and where the filter-mesh is perpetual to prosecution must be checked of the laws in question by totally ignorant of office at the Department of Fisheries laws were enacted to prevent.

Articles on fish conservation, interviews made and given by official for reasons best known to them which efforts were made to expose the around our shore and the window-d their failures.

The Maritime Institute of Ireland interests of the nation and it is to its is addressed—with a request to have

OUT KNIFE – AND CUT

*Come on “me boys”, out knife-and
With the Germans and the Spaniards
From the Netherlands and Poland
But we'll barricade our “fifty-miles*

*Come on “me boys”, out knife-and
By petty little bureaucrats who are
For them the bell has tolled too long
So batten down the hatches boys, a*

*Come on “me boys”, out knife – a
Except the end you severed – and
Tear the pompous pretence from the
dens*

*Where fishing nets are envelopes, and
Come on “me boys” out knife – a
came,*

*And build yourselves a structure mo
Keep the world outside our waters
Nor machines to fish and process;*

*Come on “me boys”, out knife – a
We fouled a dirty “fastener” when
Cut adrift the cob-webbed “loners”
Unite, and work together – there a*

*Come on “me boys”, out knife – a
The fish will grace our waters – if w
Enrich your lives with unity, then p
And tow a bladed grappling across t*

*Come on “me boys”, out knife – a
It can be ours forever, and provide
A steady flow from reservoirs will le
While the little streams which feed*

The initial necessity for a fishery potential exists for a viable industry

Accepting, then, that the potential status of an industry and create to maintain its solvency. National state the resources of the state made aggressive capital investment in it.

It will be imperative that a Departmental responsibilities and which must be established through a responsible Minister of State

An advisory body of carefully selected or biased through operational involvement director, to advise co-ordination at records and reports of transactions of its subsidiaries.

Channels of responsibility must be established in the industry and regular efficiency checks

Appointments must not be made through the medium of ability and prepared examination tests.

size and fish-size regulations which exist
create justification for Industrial Fishing,
in inshore waters through insistence on
ations cannot be made effective outside
immature fish are processed with profit
ually on tow. In this respect the liability
those who, by default, effect breaches of
oring their existence during their tenure
eries—and effect the condition which the

and in reply to public statements and
als and public men were denied publica-
emselves by two Dublin newspapers, in
the disaster being enacted in the waters
-dressing capers of officials covering up

eland is avowed to serve the maritime
ts members in conference that this paper
e its suggestions and charges investigated.

nd cut; the French are on the sea;
rads, and the Russians, on the spree,
d too, with greedy eyes aglow—
es" through every ebb and flow.

nd cut, we're long enough enslaved
re gut-less and depraved,
ong; for us its knell is near;
and don your fighting gear.

and cut, and leave them holding naught
d minds devoid of thought,
their poise, and the screen from off the

and ropes are little pens,

and cut, let them drift from whence they

more befitting of your name,
s — we want no chimneys tall;
till there's nothing left at all,

and cut, and keep our waters free;
n we joined the E.E.C.

s" who surrender through their greed,
are future mouths to feed.

and cut; don't buckle in despair;
f we keep them LIVING there.

practice what you preach
s those who dare impeach,

and cut, and help what gives us feed;
e our every need.

I leave their levels high—
d them, are fed by earth and sky.

Fisheries Plan is to recognise that the
ry.

initial does exist, it is imperative to give it
te machinery to direct and control it and
status must be given to the industry and
available to sustain it and promote pro-

partment be appointed which has no dual
e answerable to the nation for its charge
State.

ected and dedicated men—not restricted
vovement—must be appointed, under a
t all levels—with powers of access to all
is in the Department of Fisheries and all

st be constructed into each branch of the
cks made to ensure their viability.
ade to any position of control other than
nd experience, and proficiency tested by

Inshore and inland fisheries must, initially, be given attentive priority
because they cover the area of current and traditional fishing for which our
boats are built and at which our fishermen are most proficient and for which
our supply and disposal industry is geared.

Before becoming involved in offshore fishing and incurring a gigantic
overdraft to that end, a calm appraisal must be made as to the wisdom of
such an undertaking—bearing in mind the transient potential in fish stocks
in areas where controls cannot be enforced.

Whatever area of exclusive rights comes under jurisdiction, total
security must be organised and exercised, and provision made to this end.

A detailed policy and programme must be prepared, published, and
distributed throughout the trade with an enlightening impulse towards
co-operation, mutual understanding and inter-dependence.

The national nurseries like bays and inlets must be made sacred and
augmented by state hatcheries, and the coastline zoned for total ban on
trawl-fishing in each zone for a period of five years on and arrangement of
perpetual rotation.

Feeding must be given the priority it demands to sustain life and
preserve and retain the life cycle of fish in inshore waters.

Fish exports will need to be studied in relation to long-term economic
logic and the value of exports gauged against the values which imports
would assume should our inshore source of supply become extinct—bringing
with it the additional burdens to the nation of providing for those at present
supported by the fishing industry.

Supplies for domestic consumption and for export must be controlled
and equated to demand and return to producer—with a permanent eye on
source of supply.

It being commonly conceded that adequate protection cannot be given
to fish stocks in inshore waters by the fisheries protection vessels in service,
a move must be made to augment this service—with minimal comparative

cost to the state—which should command support and co-operation from
fishermen, together with their active participation.

All serviceable fishing vessels of 60 feet and over which are lying-up in
ports around the coast should be surveyed, and those adaptable acquired by
the navy and equipped with gun and wire-cutting equipment, and each
commanded by an officer of the navy, with a gunner, and crewed by a
volunteer force recruited from active fishermen. The crew pool should be
kept full on a monthly relief rotating system from the boats supplying the
pool, to ensure the participation of all fishermen.

The state must accept liability for running costs and maintenance, and
boats supplying the crew pool arrange an extra share to cover their patrol-
man on duty. An independent radio link can effect co-ordination throughout
the security ring from shore-based control, operating night and day to
receive regular reports from surface and air patrols, and to direct their
operations. It is through this medium alone that conflict at sea can be
contained and controlled when poaching is being practised.

At the producers' end, it could be a hopeful sign that fishermen have
at last developed sufficient concern about the gradual erosion of their rights
to form an association and become affiliated with the Trade Union Move-
ment.

However, with the evident inability of successive Governments to
appreciate the existence of aquatic wealth before stock depletion and
foreign poaching compelled attention, it is also evident that the Trade
Union Movement is equally wanting, and has shown no initiative or interest
in respect of it, and has no officials competent to handle long-term problems
relating to it.

It remains to be seen whether the well-meaning men in the fishing
community, who have had the courage to initiate a protective effort, will be
able to overcome the traditional individualism of fishermen—and effect
what has so often failed in efforts to organise fishermen's co-operatives—
because of this entrenched individualism.

I am not suggesting that this weakness leaves fishermen open prey to
all machinations against their prospective harvest, but it does render them
malleable to their own destruction—and being victims of their environment
and the long hours they work they have become slaves to their own occu-
pation and its challenge, to land a big catch.

It might be appropriate to conclude the paper with words I used many
years ago when I was laughed to scorn and was the butt for many blasphemous
good-humoured jokes for warnings on the necessity for conservation—

The "perpetual nibble" put Empires at bay,
And reduced the once mighty to ashes and clay.
A "fisherman's nibble" is deep where it gnaws,
And the mouth of his trawl has insatiable jaws.

Hypocrisy in place of Justice

ONCE AGAIN we have all the condemnations from Church and State. The paper columns are full of them. Surely it's time that Irish people woke up to the hypocrisy of the people who make these utterances. It's hard to believe that people are still conned by our politicians as they appear on T.V. with grave faces signing books of condolences and denouncing "the men of violence who are disgracing our country".

Britain has waged war on Ireland for the past 800 years. Down through the centuries they have inflicted the most heinous acts of violence on our people, the likes of which could hardly be matched by any other tyrannical power on earth. They are still murdering and torturing our people in mind and body in the North. All the time the politicians and church leaders cry out for "peace", or what they try to tell us would be "peace" — the leaving down of arms by the I.R.A. and other paramilitaries. Would this give us peace? Would the families and friends of the men and women incarcerated in the notorious jail dungeons of the North, Portlaoise, Limerick, and Britain be at peace? Would the nationalist population of the North, whose homes and families are terrorised daily by the British Army be at peace? Would the families of the men who have been and still are gunned down by the S.A.S. be at peace? Would the large numbers of the population North/South who are unemployed and are forced to live in sub-human living conditions be at peace? Would the inmates of our squalid mental hospitals and their families be at peace? We could go on and on. The answer is that none of these people would be at peace, because there cannot be peace without justice, and there can never be justice in Ireland until the British leave. England have set out to destroy a nation. This is not done by killing the body but by demoralising the soul.

We have almost lost our native language. Travelling around Ireland you will find that the majority of our children only know one language, and that is one of four lettered words. Our culture is almost gone. Our dole queues are full. The majority of our people are completely lacking in social conscience. We have developed into a capitalist society with our so-called political leaders grinding the underprivileged under their feet. It is in the light of the foregoing that we must look at the I.R.A. and their

actions. No matter how much their actions horrify people, we must realise that similar actions such as the killing of the Viceroy in the Phoenix Park, the killing of 2,000 innocent civilians during the Easter rebellion, the ambush at Kilmichael, and the shooting of 14 British Agents in their beds in Dublin, by order of Michael Collins etc., have been going on for the past 800 years.

Like it or not it is actions of this nature that has kept the small breadth of life that is in the nation to-day. "Thou shalt not kill", church leaders and politicians shout. It's not always those who pull the trigger who is responsible for the act. The people of Ireland are responsible for every drop of blood spilled. The politicians can and are using the war in the North to camouflage the economic mess and to ensure the continuation of their political power.

When John Taylor suggested the loyalists to direct their violence to the free-state, there was a cry from politicians here. This isn't because they care about the people in the South, but because they know that the majority of Irish people would waken from their apathy and demand a British withdrawal, and their political futures would possibly be in jeopardy.

Let us waken from our apathy now. Let us come together, and demand a British withdrawal. Release our political prisoners. Give free speech and civil rights to everyone, and get down to developing our country into a united socialist state with true peace and love for all. It would be well for Christians to realise that Christianity is true Socialism, and it would be well for some of our church leaders and cleric writers to remember that it was the elected leaders who crucified Christianity from the beginning.

The proclamation of Easter week states "The Irish Republic is entitled to and hereby claims the allegiance of every Irishman and woman. The Republic guarantees religious and civil liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities to all it's citizens, and declares its resolve to pursue the happiness and prosperity of the whole nation and of all it's parts, cherishing all the children of the nation equally, and oblivious of the differences carefully fostered by an alien Government, which have divided a minority from the majority in the past".

There is no other peace formula.

□ □ □



"On the Sunday when the Centenary of Michael Davitt, founder of the Land League, was being co-memorated at Stride, Co. Mayo, Jack Lynch was entertaining the British Ambassador at The All-Ireland Hurling Semi-Final at Croke Park".

TWO MINUTES SILENCE

THE COLLOBORATORS

The joint statement of Trade Union bodies for a two minutes silence on September 5th to be observed in all places of work "in memory of the victims of violence in Northern Ireland" fooled no one. This statement asked that the silence be observed at 11 a.m., the time of the funeral procession in London for Lord Mountbatten. The executive committee of the T.U.C. are here showing themselves in their true colours as the fawning flunkeys of the ruling class that they are. The kind of questions the trade union movement should be meditating on at the moment are far more imperative than the death of a Lord or a Dowager. Questions like (A) The amount of land the Mountbattens and their like possess in Ireland, (B) The fishing "rights" they have, (C) How many thousands of ordinary decent people and their families have been disposed of these rights in order to cater for the Mountbattens? (D) How many thousands of people here in Ireland have been made redundant in order to keep the Mountbattens and their like living in the lap of luxury? (E) How much capital and interest do the Mountbattens and their retinue syphon annually out of our country? (F) How many Irish families over the centuries have died prematurely or have been stunted mentally and physically because of the greedy selfish grip on the economy of the country, this brood of bloated leeches have acquired.

CROCIDILE TEARS

No amount of crocidile tears can wash away the facts that the trade union movements in Ireland and in Gt. Britain have fallen on hard times. The administration of the Union's affairs are in the hands of an executive which is second to none in its rank betrayal of the unions policies and principles. Whole industries have been allowed to go to the wall through mass redundancies. Principles gained through the blood and sweat of the rank and file have been bartered overnight for sinister productivity deals. The once men of no property who set themselves up as guardians of the poor and the down-trodden, the weak and defenceless, have now become small property owners in their own rights. They have become guardians of their own little principalities, fighting for their own little corners within their own little conclaves, little petty-minded godfathers of a corporate maffia. They are a fifth column within the ranks of the working class.

OFFICE RATS

When others take up the cause, these renegades have deserted, and pick up

the cudgel their stodgy hands have dropped, they then emerge from their funkholes as the office rats that they are. They attempt in some conspiratorial fashion a degeneration of the struggle for progress, a struggle which consistently threatens to expose their treachery. There is no more progressive struggle going on at the moment in our country than that which is in process to remove the border which partitions us in order to finish once and for all the age old struggle of Ireland for an independant 32 county republic.

THE LAST SHALL BE FIRST

Irish politics shall make no sense until that border is removed. It is only then that the Irish people as a whole can separate the wheat from the chaff, the men from the boys, the staunch from the weak-kneed. In an independant 32 county Socialist Republic of Ireland those that come first under partition could well be last, and those that come last could well be considered first. The chaos of wasted lives would be corrected.

STAND FIRM

The Irish people must stand firm behind those who are waging this noble struggle for the ending of partition. The forces waging the struggle for our complete independance shall have all sorts of base obstacles placed in their paths. Unfortunately some of these obstacles are human beings. These obstacles, institutions and organisations of old established orders stand in the way of our nations progress. They are deliberately established in order to give the status quo a sense of consolidation, to create an air of infallibility around their authority, a determined factor of natural selection beyond which human society can make no further progress. Our history, however tells us otherwise. All social barriers must go when their time comes.

STORMING THE HEAVENS

When the peasants of Russia charged en masse the institutions of The Czar during the 1917 Revolution it was said of them that they were storming the gates of heaven. Every "respectable" establishment voice was raised in angry protest against their "blasphemous act". The Czar was then recognised officially and habitually as God's representative on earth, within the Russian Empire.

In the same manner every little funkey, and all the various coloured varieties of office rats shall rant and rave against the Irish people's like struggle. Inevitable the Irish people are going to make a mass charge against the "sacred" institutions here when the time comes.



JAMES CONNOLLY

THE VORTEX

The Pople, we are sorry to see is also in grave danger of being drawn into this reactionary vortex. Those who are planning His Irish Itinerary are gyrating like a mule inside a mill wheel in order to try to placate British authorities anger at the death of the Mountbattens. In the process of cancelling the Popes visit to the six counties, they are in grave danger of abandoning our Catholic brethren there, and also of abandoning the ancient eccleciastical capital of Armagh. The planners of the Papal visit are in grave danger of giving an air of respectability to the age-old orange order ideology of a "Protestant Government for a Protestant people, a reactionary idea which all true freedom loving people of Ireland have consistantly fought. Rather the Popes visit to Ireland be cancelled altogether than this reactionary idea be allowed to take root.

One might as well voice the opinion of John Taylor and the Official Unionist Party, when they voiced the cancellation of the Popes' visit to the six counties. Connolly proclaimed that the recognition of a partitioned Ireland would be tantamount to handing over the Catholic population there to the most sectarian bigots in the world. That statement is as true to-day as when it was uttered. The recent rantings of Taylor and the Unionist Party as well as the Sectarian assassinations carried out by the loyalist paramilitaries qualify this.

PARTITIONED IRELAND SHALL NEVER BE AT PEACE

The Irish people like other races in history shall not falter in their struggle, shall not count their casualties as so much wasted labour and when they do stand to attention in two minutes silence, it shall be as a free sovereign nation paying dur tribute to the noble men and women, boys and girls who sacrificed their all to establish the right of their country to take it's place proudly amongst the other nations of the world.



Sunday Independent July, 22nd 1979.
 "Michael O'Leary believed that he couldn't afford to have a press officer winging from Europe to Dublin. But that was before he found that members of The European Parliament's Secretarial allowance was to jump from £4,000 to £18,000 per annum".

Sunday Independent July, 22nd 1979.
 "Sile De Valera confessed to having had to buy a number of new outfits before coming to Strasbourg — there were so many formal receptions and official luncheons. After some of the evening receptions she was invited to private dinners.

Comment: The next time you get your small pay packet with the large slice of P.A.Y.E. taken out of it, you will see from the above, further reasons to condemn the E.E.C. if you haven't already done so.

Sunday Independent, July 22nd 1979.
 "It was the day that the Rev. Ian Paisley discovered — according to John Hume — that he was not addressing a meeting in the Orange Hall in Cullybackey, but the European Parliament in Strasbourg... The question that must now be posed and which was the one, being, discussed in the bars and lobbies was: Will big Ian become the clown of the new Parliament?"

Comment; However, John Hume and his fellow-politicians, North and South of the border declare to the world that we can only have a United Ireland when Mr. Paisley and his followers see fit to accept it".

Sunday Independent July, 22nd 1979. (Des Hickey). "A few Sundays ago I reported that a Glasgow registered ship was about to dump thousands of tons of British nuclear waste into the Atlantic some 350 miles off the Cork and Kerry coasts... A routine enquiry to Lloyds of London revealed that the M.V. "The Gem" was still at sea — and "in casualty".

"Isn't it rather alarming to think that a ship fully loaded with nuclear

waste may be in danger of foundering on our coast.

"The Gem is just one of several ships now carrying nuclear waste in the seas off Ireland. An accident involving just one of these ships would create unthinkable hazards for all of us.

"And surely it is high time our Government called a halt to this annual dumping of nuclear waste so close to our shores.

"The mountain of deadly radio-active material dumped into the Atlantic off our south-west coast now exceeds an astonishing 100,000 ton".

Comment: It is not likely that the Government will "call a halt" to this kind of carry on when they are bending over backwards to establish a nuclear plant at Carnsore to obey the commands of their European masters.

The halt must be called by the people. Each and everyone reading this should react in the most effective and organised way they can.

Irish Times, 4/7/1979.

"It is a fact that the children of people of lower incomes are more likely to be ill than the children of the professional classes. The infant mortality rate is twice as high for the children of the unemployed and those on low wages than it is for children of the professional classes".

Comment: The consequences of this fatal failure to cherish all the children of the nation equally should motivate the people to fight for a minimum wage for all workers that would provide adequate living standards for all. It is evident from the above statement that the children who survive in those families have to grow up in sub-standard conditions. It is mainly from those deprived families the State gets it's inmates for the State's answer to the problem — Loughan House Jail.

Sunday Press 22/7/1979. (Quoting an E.E.C. Report).

"Denmark, where all sorts of contraceptives are freely available leads Europe in illegitimacy. No less than 25% of all Danish children are born out of wedlock.

"Of every one thousand children born in Britain 95 are illegitimate; contraceptive aids are also freely available in Britain.

Comment: Whatever the rights or wrongs of contraception, it is evident from the above that their availability will not control illegitimate births. We in the Irish Civil Rights Action League say that the State has a duty to ensure as far as possible that the fathers of children born out of wedlock should be made legally responsible for those children until they are finished school or adopted. We feel that if such a law was enforced, the number of illegitimate births would decrease.

Sunday Independent (July, 22nd, 1979)
 Father Michael Cleary writes "Do you know that at present, if two sixteen year old children come to me this morning with their baptism certs and parents consent, I could marry them this evening and while I might be in trouble with my Archbishop the state would smile benevolently and promise to house them when they have four children, and then wonder why the marriage went wrong and consider introducing divorce to solve all their problems".

Irish Times July, 24/2/1979.

"The Director of The Samaritan Centre, Mrs. Joan Carr said that examination pressures were high on the list of young peoples anxieties".

Comment: The above quotations indicate that our educational system is falling far short of what is required in preparing our children to cope with the world as it is to-day. The people must insist that the Department of Education must face up to the problems of education, and not allow that department to malfunction by taking the easy way out at the expense of our children.

In it's latest annual report the Samaritan's note an increase of 9% in the number of callers in the under 19 age-group.

Sunday Independent (Editorial) 22/7/79.

"The Autumn visit of Pope John Pail II to our shores is a singular honour to a country which has been steeped in the Christian ethic since 432.

"The Pontiff will receive the greatest acclaim given to any man.

"Wouldn't it be a supreme gesture of peace if the warring factions on this island laid down their arms to mark the historic visit".

Comment: We feel that to silence the war weapons for the Popes visit would be a very small gesture indeed. What would be a supreme gesture would be for the forces of British occupation, whose unwelcome pressence on this island is the root cause of the violence here now to announce their intention to withdraw.

Sunday Independent 5/8/79 (Des Hickey)

"Among the unwanted literature that lands on my desk is a leaflet from 'The Republican Movement' titled 'Britain Must Go!'. The tirade begins 'The English invaded our country in 1169...' And I always thought it was the Normans.

Comment: We don't think this a subject that should be treated with smart wisecracks from Des Hickey or any other such journalist who gets paid for making them. It makes no difference whether they were Normans, Goths, Vandals or Huns, they came here as aggressors. They have behaved as such since, and one would expect that Des Hickey would be telling them through his column, that it was time to leave.