

CONCERNED

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF FERMANAGH CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE COMMITTEE

PAV
NO
RENT
PAV
NO
RATES

No. 80

Saturday, 31st March (De Sathairn, 31 Márta), 1973

2nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FERMANAGH CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU

THE second Annual General Meeting of the Fermanagh Citizens' Advice Society was held in the Scout Hall, Old St. Michael's School, Enniskillen, on Sunday last, 25th March. Over one hundred delegates from all over Fermanagh as well as many members of the public attended.

The Society is the body responsible for the Fermanagh Citizens' Advice Bureau, 3 Queen Street, Enniskillen.

In his report, the Bureau's Director, Mr. Tom Flatley, said that he had dealt with 1,582 recorded cases in the past year (1972-73) and that people had come to his office from all over Fermanagh and parts of Tyrone. Mr. Flatley pointed out that no one had been asked their religion, but that just over 10% had told him they were Protestants.

The A.G.M. elected a new Executive Committee, and the Bureau's annual fund drive was launched. The meeting also adopted the reports of the Secretary, Mr. Patrick Maguire, and Treasurer, Mr. Johnnie Cox.

Mr. Flatley was given thunderous applause when he delivered his report and Mr. Frank McManus, M.P., the brainchild of the Bureau, was warmly applauded when he praised the Bureau for its great work, and paid tribute to Mr. Flatley and the Committee.

The Society's Vice-Chairman, Mr. Terence Maguire, Killesher, presided and apologies were read out from Mr. Charlie Mulligan, Lisnaskea (the Society's Chairman), who was unable to attend.

Mr. Frank McManus, M.P., warmly welcomed everyone present and said that with such an enthusiastic attendance the next year looked very promising for the Bureau. Mr. McManus said that in the final analysis, the Bureau's future depended on the response to the fund drive. It was up to EVERYONE present to see to it that adequate finance was provided. At the moment the Bureau was in a sound financial position, but that would all change if the present fund drive was not successful. If the Bureau was maintained it could go from strength to strength and broaden its perspective.

"INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND AMENITIES"

Mr. McManus said that if the Bureau continued on a sound financial footing and became really established it could broaden its scope and expand its outlook to help provide such essential things as new industry which brought employment, and amenities for Co. Fermanagh. The Bureau was now scoring great success with social welfare, housing and farming problems, but if it could expand its outlook to the problem of providing industries as well it would be serving Fermanagh even greater. Mr. McManus went on. The Fermanagh-South Tyrone M.P. went on to say that Fermanagh was an underdeveloped area and it needed as much industry, employment and amenities as possible. "Only with your help and with mine can the Citizens' Advice Bureau really succeed. It has already shown that it's a great ser-

vive to the people of Fermanagh," Mr. McManus concluded to loud applause.

FUND DRIVE LAUNCHED— £3,000 A YEAR WANTED

The Citizens' Advice Bureau costs an estimated £3,000 per year to run. At last Sunday's meeting the Society's membership cards, which cost £1, were distributed to sellers who will be selling them all over Fermanagh in the coming weeks. The Society pays out about £600 a year in prizes.

MR. FLATLEY'S REPORT: 1,600 RECORDED CASES

Mr. Tom Flatley, the Bureau's full-time Director, welcomed everyone present and said he was delighted that every corner of Fermanagh was represented at the A.G.M.—Belleek to Roslea, Enniskillen to Lisnaskea, Ederney to Derrylin.

Here are extracts from Mr. Flatley's report:

"In the year March, 1972, to March, 1973, I dealt with 1,582 recorded cases, that is almost 600 cases more than last year. People have come to the Bureau from all over County Fermanagh and from parts of County Tyrone. By recorded cases I mean cases which are of such an involved nature that people sit down and give me a detailed account of their problem which I write down in full. These cases may take one or two days, a few weeks, or even months to deal with completely.

The figure of 1,582 does not include the hundreds, possibly thousands, of cases which I am able to deal with on the spot by giving immediate advice or making a telephone call.

VARIATION IN CASES

You may wonder what all these problems are about. They vary over as wide a field as in conceivable. The following is a break-down:

SOCIAL WELFARE (1,003)—Under this heading are included problems of unemployment benefit, redundancy payments, family income supplement, supplementary assistance.

HOUSING (321)—The problems concerning housing are mainly from people who want a Council house, and also from people who want to be transferred from one area to another. Dealing with these problems is the most time-consuming work of all. It means visiting the areas and people concerned, and taking statements and relaying all this information to the Housing Executive. It means organising an information network and keeping in continuous touch with the people concerned.

FARM GRANTS (174)—These cases comprise mainly of requests for aid in the completing of application forms for various grants, aid towards the speeding up of delayed payments, subsidies, etc.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST ARMY (46)—In addition to all this, there are 38 other cases, some of a very confidential nature. As well as this I have

given help and advice to a few hundred people who are on rent and rates strike.

During the year I have had a 70% to 80% success rate with all cases and I am glad to report that I have had better success this year with Tribunals. Please God this success in all sections will continue.

In short the Bureau has become what we all hoped and expected it would become—a centre where all people, from all sections of the community, can come with their problems. It has filled a vacuum that had existed for far too long. People in trouble, people without hope, people oppressed, and people with ordinary everyday problems can come to the Bureau for help and advice. I hope that in the future, as I become more experienced, I will deal with problems speedier and more efficiently. Since the Bureau opened on 12th January, 1971, particularly in 1972, I have had the great pleasure of receiving and helping people not only with the ordinary everyday problems, but of being able to help a few people who were almost without hope—people who, in spite of the Welfare State, were without money, and in some cases without a roof over their heads."

Mr. Flatley's report continues: "It is now becoming clear that the Citizens' Advice Bureau is recognised as a centre of help and advice not only by the people of Fermanagh but by the Government Departments, where I am achieving increased success. We have received various circulars, publications, etc., from several Government bodies, and in a few cases from international bodies as well. I wish to take this opportunity of thanking all the civil servants in the various Government Departments who have given me help and co-operation. My hope for the future is that the Bureau will give a better and more comprehensive service to the citizens of Fermanagh in the coming year."

Mr. Flatley thanked the Officers and members of the outgoing Committee, the five thousand members of the Society and everyone who helped him in any way in the past year. Mr. Flatley received a standing ovation, and tribute was paid to him from several speakers, including the Chairman, Mr. Terence Maguire, and Mr. Fergus McQuillan, Newtownbutler.

NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The meeting elected the following Executive Committee, representing the whole county: Terence Maguire (Killesher); Patrick Maguire, J. J. McManus, Frank McManus, M.P., Gabriel Maguire, Eddie Brogan (Enniskillen); Johnny Cox (Garvary); Charlie Mulligan, Mrs. E. Mulligan, Miss Paula McManus (Lisnaskea); Martin O'Brien (Arney); James Gallagher, Peter Burns (Irvinestown); John Joe McCusker (Newtownbutler); Pat McKenna (Tempo); Tom Smith (Coonian); Tommy O'Hara (Roslea); Maurice McGrath (Ederney); Benny Keown (Garrison); James Carey (Maguirey-bridge); John McConnell (Mackian); James Murphy (Derrylin).

The new officers will be elected at the first meeting of this Committee. The new Committee will have the powers of co-optation and meetings will be held in the Teemore, Belcoo and Derrygonnelly areas to elect delegates from those areas to the new Committee.

All in all, a very successful Annual General Meeting and it is confidently predicted that this year's fund drive, just launched, will be as successful.

BRITAIN GETS TASTE OF ARMY TERROR

POLICE throughout Southern England were alerted last week-end when two soldiers who were formerly stationed in Northern Ireland broke out of a mental home and proceeded to terrorise the inhabitants of a Hampshire hamlet. British television and press gave wide coverage of the man-hunt until the escapees were finally run to ground and returned to the institution. Every day in Ardoyne, Ballymurphy and New Lodge the local people are subjected to the same sort of terrorism by armed, mad Brits as were the natives of the Hampshire village. Old people and young children go in constant danger of being shot at and indeed murdered by these insane invaders. The casualty list in these areas contains a large percentage of pensioners and schoolchildren. However, the British press and television is strangely silent on coverage of these events, and, worse still, so is our own shackled media. It would appear that two crazy, unarmed Brits breaking windows in an English village warrants more attention than a bunch of armed criminal lunatics killing and pillaging in the little side streets of Belfast.

Thursday, the 29th March will be a day to remember in the Vietnam calendar. At dawn on that morning they will see the last of the American invaders off their territory. For a decade now the Vietnamese have fought against the might of one of the most powerful nations (militarily) on earth. They have survived torture, death and destruction, they displayed a spirit and courage against almost impossible odds, and they won the admiration of all freedom loving people. Men and women of Vietnam, from our own little war-torn land we salute you and look forward to the day when we too will see the backs of the British invader. We know as surely as the sun will set this evening that while we display the spirit and courage of the Vietnamese then we also shall soon be celebrating our freedom from foreign domination.

RENT AND RATES STRIKE

IN A STATEMENT the Fermanagh Civil Resistance Committee said there can be no weakening in the Rent and Rates Strike.

At its inception a firm declaration was made: No Rent, No Rates until the last internee is released and Long Kesh closed.

Since then interment has been intensified in the form of "detention". Thousands of homes have been torn apart by army searches and families are harassed day and night. A new and ugly form of oppression has come in the detention of women and young girls held in atrocious conditions in Armagh Jail.

The Resistance Movement pledges its full support to all participants in the strike, which must continue until the last internee, detainee and political prisoner (male and female) is released and that evil place of human agony is closed forever.

WELL DONE, BRANDO

THE news of Marlon Brando's refusal to accept an Oscar Award in America as a protest against the treatment of the Indians at Wounded Knee has been welcomed by all who believe in justice.

The American Indian is the real American. He has been robbed and dispossessed by the white invader. He is despised and maligned and portrayed as a savage. He has been forced off his land and put into "Reservations", a type of compound restricting his movement. The stand he has been making at Wounded Knee has been admired by justice lovers around the world, and now how good it is to see a figure like Marlon Brando make a public protest in the cause of the weak, the wronged and the down-trodden.

Letters to the Editor

FROM THE CURRAGH

26th MARCH, 1973

THE campaign to improve conditions in Curragh Glasshouse today enters its fourth week with complete solidarity by all forty Republican prisoners. Developments to date:

- 1 During first week of campaign the stained and dirty mattresses were replaced by new ones. New pillows were also supplied.
- 2 During last (third) week all blankets were taken out of cells by prisoners and deposited in a heap outside the Governor's office. Many of the men were by this time suffering from an itch and skin rash due to these dirty blankets which had been condemned by various prison doctors on a number of occasions, the first being six months ago. All prisoners slept without bedding (blankets) that night. Next evening new blankets were issued.
- 3 No progress has been made regarding the hobby-work. Leather work is still not allowed in here—the only prison in Ireland where this obtains. The question of the visiting conditions which are completely unacceptable is still outstanding also. The situation on visits up to the commencement of the strike led to much interference on visits with consequent distress to prisoners and their relatives, especially with regard to wives and families.
- 4 Psychological pressure continues with so many men in a small space and fresh air time severely restricted.

GENERAL.—The spirit among the prisoners in this campaign is the highest and they are determined to continue with it until their very reasonable demands are met. Relatives and friends of the prisoners will understand that the prisoners are cutting themselves off from them by refusing to take visits or write letters in order to improve the conditions that have led to so many of the prisoners' visitors being degraded on their coming here in the past. Previously this situation led to conflict on visits with military guards, as a result of which remission of sentence was lost and even visitors themselves were assaulted.

Apart from the skin conditions of many of the prisoners, which is being treated, the men are all in good spirits and send greetings to their friends and relations and their comrades-in-arms.

Signed: Dan Hoban (Mayo), O.C.

Martin McGuinness (Derry), Adjutant

THE WHITE PAPER

White is the colour,
Paper is the name;
That's all the British want,
We know their little game.
First they'll try to break us down,
Steal our lads and men,
And when we turn our backs
The Unionist Rule again.
Free our sons and fathers,
That still is the plea;
FREE OUR SONS AND FATHERS
FROM THOSE SNARES OF MISERY!

M. McCusker

MARTIN MONAGHAN'S THANKS

A Chara,

I am writing you this letter to express my gratitude to you and the staff of CONCERNED for working so hard to educate the people of Fermanagh in our struggle for freedom. As you know, it is very difficult for the Republican Movement to put its points of view over to the people because of the present situation, but with your paper and others doing such good work we are achieving very good results.

As CONCERNED is read in many parts of the country I would like to ask this question to readers: Have you done anything to help in the present struggle for freedom and justice? If your answer is No, don't be discouraged; there is still time to redeem yourself.

For too long the people have bowed to the imperialists, but the time has come to be counted, so stand up and put your shoulder to the Republican wheel.

Being a Fermanagh man myself, I am very proud of the way in which the people have supported this just struggle.

To those who will remain onlookers I would say: just bear a thought for the young men and women who have died for your sake. Let their sacrifice be not in vain. The fools, the fools, they have left us our Fenian dead and while Ireland holds these graves Ireland unfree shall never be at peace.

Martin Monaghan

A LONDONER'S VIEW

Dear Mr. Editor,

May I congratulate you on your wonderful paper CONCERNED. I have been getting a copy from a friend for the past six weeks. I am so pleased with it that I would like to order two dozen each week. I can sell these at work without any trouble.

All your articles give me great pleasure, but may I mention in particular the ones by S. Mac Eireann on Reunification; they were excellent. If only Mr. Heath and Mr. Whitelaw would study these I believe they would rewrite their White Paper. I agree with your comment on the White Paper: it is no solution to the Irish question. You are right—"Ireland for the Irish". The British Army must be withdrawn and I can assure you there is a growing demand for this here. Your cartoonist is tops; keep it up.

Finally I wish to tell you that I was not born in Ireland, but my grandparents came from the Rosslea district of Co. Fermanagh and my mother comes from Clane in Co. Kildare.

I have always loved Ireland. Her history is the most stimulating in the world—a heroic race, beaten so often but never conquered. This time you MUST win. Courage, you have many friends. God bless you all.

Sincerely,

Una Brady (Miss)

19 Sandringham Road,
Willesden Green,
London, N.W.2.

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TALKING POINTS

by Dr. T. K. McKEOGH

GAY BYRNE in the first of his articles in the Sunday Pres opines that the election was notable for the demise as issues of partition, the Irish language and republicanism.

The high-flown ideologies had begun to wear a bit thin, he tells us, the nationalist bit no longer works any more than the yelling of mindless green-flaggerly to our alcoholic patriots in pubs. It is the cost of living that matters and the rates.

His reading of the state of public opinion at present is probably correct. Not only the election here but the Border plebiscite in the North and a recent opinion poll in both North and South, all seem to confirm his diagnosis that the slogan of the moment is Erin go Bread and Butter rather than Erin go Brath.

In the age of Admass who better than an admn for detecting which way the wind is blowing.

But his overt approval of this state of affairs is a different matter, and one regrets his unthinking reiteration of prejudices formed, by his own admission, at the age of 16.

To speak of mindless green-flaggerly in pubs and alcoholic patriots is to ignore or to be unaware of the serious (non-alcoholic!) thinking that is being done about the new Ireland that must eventually emerge and that will be as different from its present sundered parts as water is from hydrogen and oxygen.

The father of Irish republicanism insisted that he wanted to heal divisions within the Irish people and

to substitute the common name of Irishman for the denominational labels that divided them.

The Stormont statelet was inherently unstable from the beginning, and it was the blatant and ruthless discrimination exercised by the regime against the minority throughout its 50 years' existence that made its catastrophic end inevitable. It was, one might say, programmed to self-destruct.

That in the last analysis the members of the oppressed minority who threw the bombs were republicans does not make republicanism responsible for the violence and mayhem. It was the repression of the lesser breeds without the law born of Unionism and imperialism (for unionism has always been married to imperialism) that provoked the bloody uprising.

It is true that the Provos have blundered dreadfully in not declaring a ceasefire when Stormont fell and giving Mr. Whitelaw a chance to right the wrongs of the region.

By so doing they caused much suffering and loss of life and alienated nearly all their support in the South. But this does not excuse the expressed apathy of the electorate here for the appalling state of affairs in the North, especially when one contrasts it with the publicly expressed concern about discrimination in South Africa, Rhodesia and other countries.

Some might say that it is not that high flown ideologies are worn a bit thin, but that principles

are being betrayed.

Nationalism is a potent force, but we might have been spared the horrors of the last four years and it is possible that the separatist movement would have dwindled to something corresponding to the Nationalist parties in Scotland and Wales.

For a pointer we can look back towards the beginning of this century when many of the prospering middle-class were beginning to think of themselves as British and not Irish.

In "An Irish Doctor's Memories" (Clonmore and Reynolds, Dublin, 1956) Dr. Patrick Heffernan, looking back on his year in the Castle in Blackrock College, says: "I am amazed to recall the liberal and, shall I add, the 'West British' atmosphere which prevailed in our common room . . . We all believed in the British Empire and many of us looked forward to a career in its service.

"The world was our oyster, we flaunted cosmopolitanism and had no use for 'Little Irelanders'."

It is unlikely that Irishmen ever again will be seduced in this way, despite the influence of British radio, television, newspapers and magazines.

One hopes that some day in an Ireland united by reconciliation our nationalism will be tempered sufficiently to make us good Europeans. But to blame it and not imperialism and sectarianism fomented by the privileged in the North to help them in their struggles against the have-nots for bloodshed is manifestly wrong.

WARNING ON ARMY PRESENCE AT HOSPITAL

A WARNING about the danger to civilian lives at Daisy Hill Hospital in Newry if the British Army and RUC Special Branch were allowed continued use of the building and grounds has been issued in a statement from the South Armagh Sinn Fein (Kevin Street).

"This hospital", says the statement, "has been used by the forces of occupation since last year's Civil Rights march in Newry when a room adjacent to the casualty department was allocated to the Special Branch equipped with hoods for interrogation purposes. As a result of protests from some of the staff they were forced to evacuate the building.

"On Wednesday of last week the British Army took up sniper positions in the hospital grounds, thereby endangering patients, staff and visitors. Cars coming in were halted by soldiers, though there was no visible checkpoint."

Sinn Fein asked at what level the decision had been taken to allow the Army to use the hospital grounds, if there had been an inquiry by the Hospitals Management Committee into the incidents and if the findings would be made public.

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ROBERT EMMET'S SPEECH FROM THE DOCK 1803

Let no man dare, when I am dead, to charge me with dishonour; let no man attaint my memory by believing that I could have engaged in any cause but that of my country's liberty and independence; or that I could have become the pliant minion of power in the oppression of my country. The Proclamation of the Provisional Government speaks for our views; no inference can be tortured from it to countenance barbarity or debasement at home or subjection, humiliation or treachery from abroad. I would not have submitted to a foreign oppressor, for the same reason that I would resist the foreign and domestic oppressor. In the dignity of freedom I would have fought upon the threshold of my country, and its enemy would enter only by passing over my lifeless corpse. And am I who lived but for my country, and have subjected myself to the dangers of the jealous and watchful oppressor, and the bondage of the grave, only to give my countrymen their rights, and my country her independence, am I to be loaded with calumny and not sullered to resent it? No; God forbid!

"If the spirit of the illustrious dead participate in the concerns and cares of those who were dear to them in this transitory life. O, ever dear and venerated shade of my departed father, look down with scrutiny upon the conduct of your suffering son, and see if I have even for a moment, deviated from those principles of morality and patriotism which it was your care to instill into my youthful mind, and for which I am now about to offer up my life! My lords, you are impatient for the sacrifice. The blood which you seek is not congealed by the artificial terrors which surround your victim; it circulates warmly and unruiled through the channels which God created for noble purposes, but which you are now bent to destroy, for purposes so grievous that they cry to heaven. Be yet patient! I have but few more words to say I am going to go to my cold and silent grave. My lamp of life is nearly extinguished. My race is run. The grave opens to receive me and I sink into its bosom. I have but one request to ask at my departure from this world. It is — the charity of its silence. Let no man write my epitaph; for as no man who knows my motives dare now vindicate them, let not prejudice or ignorance asperse them. Let them and me rest in obscurity and peace; and my tomb remain uninscribed and my memory in oblivion until other times and other men can do justice to my character. When my country takes her place among the nations of the earth, then, and not till then, let my epitaph be written."

BARBARIC PENAL SYSTEM

BRITAIN still operates a foul, barbaric penal system against Irish political prisoners. The horrible treatment handed out to the men and women held on suspicion of the recent London bombing has horrified everyone. Most people are aware of the treatment handed out to the great O'Donovan Rossa, who was held for 35 days naked with his hands tied behind his back in Chatham Jail. But that was in the 1860s when the "Empire" was at peak strength and brutality to the weak was her policy. But today when the Empire is no more and British politicians are everywhere preaching democracy, justice and fair play, we find these Irish prisoners held only on suspicion being kept naked in their cells for four days. Strangely enough we have heard no voice of protest from Cardinal Heenan or Cardinal Conway or any politician, perhaps they are too engrossed in the White Paper.

SHAME, MR. HOURICAN

DURING the past three years the public have had to impotently endure the experience of hearing and seeing long hours of radio and TV time (provided at the expense of licence holders) placed at the disposal of purveyors of lies, injustice and sectarianism from which to disseminate their gospel of bigotry and repression, while brave and honourable Irishmen and Irishwomen are kept silently locked away in jails and detention camps. Again, leading up to the recent General Election we were nauseated by torrents of one-sided political propaganda.

The Personal Essay on the Six Counties read by Mr. Liam Hourican on Monday evening, 19th March last must surely rate high among the travesties of the principle of balanced reporting by Radio Telefis Eireann. The issue involved here is of the greatest importance. In its role, Telefis Eireann is entitled, indeed morally obliged, to give viewers and listeners an objective account of events. When RTE is producing a discussion or commentary on any current subject, it is bound in justice to ensure that contributions to the programme constitute a fair and balanced assessment of the subject being dealt with and this can be achieved only by giving equal prominence to opposing opinions. It was, therefore, improper that any employee of RTE should be given licence to arrogate to himself any period of transmission time for a harangue of biased, shallow and erroneous views of his own.

This travesty of the functions of RTE should never again be permitted.

Sinn Fein challenges RTE to allow an equal period of time, at the same peak viewing time and with an equal amount of prior publicity to a representative of Sinn Fein so that he may refute the begged questions and false accusations used by Mr. Hourican in his Essay. A refusal of this reasonable demand will simply prove that RTE is blatantly partisan in this matter.

It is grossly unfair to give privilege to anyone to misrepresent men and women who, being unjustly held behind prison bars, are not allowed to vindicate their honour.

CONFETTI FOR A FUNERAL

by S. Mac EIREANN

THE dictionary says that confetti is made from different coloured papers, torn into small pieces and used for throwing at weddings and THINGS. I suppose that we may say a funeral is a THING in as much as it is an AFFAIR. As we of the Resistance Movement see all emanations from H.M. Stationery Office, where Ireland is concerned, as so much paper and nothing more, and therefore to be torn up, I thought of the dictionary definition of confetti, seeing as how the "PAPERS" are of different colour.

We have had the Green, now the White, and if there is going to be another you may be certain it will not be Orange, because that sequence of colour emanations from H.M. Stationery Office would cause trouble since it would contravene the "Flags and Emblems" thing, if you see what I mean.

But why my super-scription, you may ask. Well, you have been following the news, I am sure, and I am equally sure that you are fully aware of how the Unionists, neo-Unionists, Unionist fellow-travellers, "Castle" and "Newe" Catholics, etc., etc., have torn both the Green and White Papers into shreds, each brand wanting its own bit for its own ulterior purpose. Result? A heap of coloured paper particles, in other words confetti. Now we of the Resistance Movement see a use for this heap. We see no use in the "Papers" themselves, but in the "Papers" shredded. We find that we may use the heap as confetti to throw at the funeral of Unionism and all the hybrids Unionism has "begot" during recent weeks. We plant to shower them with the stuff and it will take many a long day for the hybrids to shake it out of their "new clothes" and try and look respectable again (impossible, but they will try). Fitt and Co. will need a queer lot of brushing, as the stuff gets everywhere and is as difficult to get rid of as is everything else British. But it is fun to watch attitudes dictating antics and the antics would be the envy of the world's top ten clowns.

FOXY FAULKNER

Take Foxy Faulkner, for instance. He is just like the creature who inspired his pet-name. Although chased by his own as well as by those who are not his own, his "escapes" are highly amusing, even if dangerously cunning. Not unlike the story of that other fox who was always being chased but always escaping by pretending to go over a precipice. The dogs who used to chase him were not so lucky. They simply went over the precipice.

It took quite some time before the hunters discovered what foxy was up to and the secret of his miraculous escapes. Many a hunter thought that foxy was committing suicide when he was, in fact, just going home. You see, he used to dive for a protruding branch that grew straight out from the cliff face, catch hold of it with his teeth and swing himself into his den. The story goes on to tell us that he was no match for some clever hunters. They discovered the branch, cut it off and—well, I will spare you the rest.

Will Foxy Faulkner be more fortunate? How many secret cliff face branches has he? Will his hunters be too dim-witted to spot his antics? Will they go over the precipice leaving Foxy Faulkner hanging on, if only by the skin of his teeth? Keep your eye open for protruding branches on cliff faces and cut them off if you see any. In the meantime collect all the confetti you can because we want you there when the funeral takes place. Foxy Faulkner, the personification of Unionism, is hanging on the last branch—all that remains to be done is to cut it. Don't tell the SDLP, DUP, NILP, Alliance, etc., etc., and with a fair bit of luck they will go over the precipice to join Foxy Faulkner at the bottom, all falling to pieces in the exact degree of mutilation they so richly deserve.

A final warning word. Do not cheer or start to scatter your Green and White "Papers" confetti until you are absolutely certain that there is no branch left protruding from the cliff face for Foxy Faulkner except the one he is hanging on to and which we are preparing to chop.

BOMB ALERT

THE townspeople of Lisnaskea were alarmed last week when two bags were seen on the street. Bomb disposal men were quickly on the scene and the offending articles—two female reservists—were returned to the police depot at Enniskillen.

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