



# REPUBLICAN NEWS

Volume 6, Number 18 Saturday 17th April, 1976

PRICE: TEN PENCE. (England, Scotland & Wales 12p) In the USA 50 cents.

Capt. Tom Williams

Sect. Commd. Sean McCartney

Staff Capt. Gerard O'Callaghan

Staff Capt. Sean O'Carroll



The faces may have been different in the '20s, and the '40s but

## “THE MESSAGE IS STILL THE SAME”

*I say to each one of you who read this that it is your duty to arm. Until you have armed yourself and made yourself skilful in the use of arms, you have no right to a voice in any concern of the Irish Nation, no right to consider yourself a member of the Irish Nation or of any nation, no right to raise your head among any decent body of men . . . . Arm. DD*

PEARSE.

Staff Officer Sean McDermott



Lieut. Gerry Crossan

Staff Officer Jim Bryson

**SPECIAL 16 PAGE EASTER ISSUE**

# THEY ARE PLAYING OUR SONG

The comments of the eminent British historian, Professor A.J.P. Taylor last weekend, that the British should withdraw from Ireland, must be seen as a statement of support, however, indirect, for the main demand of the Republican Movement. The political connotations of the comments, emanating from such a source, cannot be ignored, indeed that they may have been 'prompted' is not impossible.

That the British want to withdraw from Ireland, physically at least, is disputable. That they wish to do so without losing 'control' is equally indisputable. This 'control' could manifest itself through either a devolved, Loyalist-dominated, colonial administration, based on William Craig's voluntary coalition plan and allied with a neo-colonial Free State Government or, a 32 Federal Free State.

BY VINDICATOR BY VINDICATOR BY VINDICATOR BY VINDICATOR

common interest" with the Free State government, i.e. a campaign of repression against Republicans and Socialists] they could create the illusion in the eyes of world opinion, of 'withdrawal' while at the same time retaining effective 'control'.

A 32 county Federal Free State is a long-term secondary option. Recent statements by the Free State opposition Fianna Fail and comments appearing in the S.D.L.P.'s "Social Democrat" suggest that both, who have worked closely with each other in the past, are trying to 'steal' the Federal alternative offered by the Republican Movement and "doctor" it to suit a Loyalist-controlled 6 county sub-state within a 'Federal' Ireland, similar to the "Boal-plan" of 1974. Such a 'solution' might be well received in certain areas of Loyalist opinion presently examining the consequences of an "Independent Ulster."

Whatever the next move of the British government might be one thing is certain, following their 'physical withdrawal' the 'war' may only just have begun.

## News from America

assassinated political leaders in Chile where the CIA was used. Mr. Ford was part of the Nixon administration throughout this entire sordid period of American history. President Ford has also used Napalm bombings in Palestine and South Vietnam. CIA agents have killed political leaders in South America as well as the Dominican Republic. Yet Mr. Ford has the political gall to speak of "Irish terrorism." President Ford needs British support in the shaky NATO alliance, a deep cause of concern to the Ford administration. His Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger is Britain's best ally on the Washington scene. Kissinger opposes nationalism, except the Zionist type, and to Jewish Nationalists, he has channeled approximately 20 billion dollars in grants and subsidies since 1970. He promises nothing but imprisonment for Irish Nationalists. American foreign policy is built on opportunism and reaction. It is totally lacking in honesty. Watergate techniques continue to prevail in the Ford administration.

Meanwhile, Liam Cosgrave has pulled off another political blunder. As one American businessman in Philadelphia said to me, "How does the Irish Prime Minister expect U.S. businessmen to invest in Ireland, a land he says is steeped in violence and disorder. No fool would venture into such an area." Cosgrave's speech in Congress attacking American citizens was the first time a foreign prime minister was allowed to condemn and criticize Americans. It set a sorry precedent. This could only happen under the Ford-Nixon administration. Irish Americans are highly insulted by the episode. Liam has blundered once again.

by Brian Gaffney.

## GREETINGS FROM LONG KESH

A Chairde,

We, the Republican Prisoners of War, Long Kesh, take the opportunity presented to us today by the commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising, to send Easter greetings to all our relatives, friends and comrades, carrying on the struggle for the Irish Republic proclaimed on the steps of the General Post Office 60 years ago.

Easter is the time of the year when Republicans everywhere remember those who paid the supreme sacrifice for their beliefs. Since Long Kesh opened its gates, many of our comrades have died behind the wire. These and the countless others who have died for the cause of Irish Freedom, we remember, and shall never forget. Easter is also the time for Republicans to reaffirm and rededicate themselves to Ire-

land's cause, incarcerated though we are, by the enemies of the Irish people, we also reaffirm our allegiance to the Aims and Objects of Osgaigh na hEireann. We are confident, and content in the knowledge, that, in the coming year, regardless of British repression and the despicable attempts by its war machine to fool the Irish people into believing that the Republican Movement is a criminal conspiracy regardless,

Loyalist threats, Fine Gael coercion, and SDLP collusion with landlords ensure that the Republican Movement will continue to successfully wage this, the final war, in 800 years of bloody conflict, for the national liberation of our homeland. But No Bas.

Is Mise,  
R.G. McAULEY, PRO Repub-  
lican Prisoners of War.

## FALL OF A TYRANT

The demise of Harold Wilson was, in a large degree, due to the guerrilla warfare of the IRA. In fact, the IRA campaign has not only cost Britain 3 billion pounds a year, at the military level, but it has also aggravated Britain's difficult financial problems. America's Newsweek Magazine conceded this. In its March 29th issue, Newsweek states "Northern Ireland remains Britain's home style version of Vietnam." How long the British taxpayers will take all this remains to be seen.

On the verge of national bankruptcy, Britain cannot afford to spend 6 billion pounds a year for its army in Northern Ireland and the take over of the Northern Irish Government, now that Stormont is a part of ancient history. The IRA campaign has been successful in several areas. The downfall of Stormont is a part of ancient history. The IRA campaign has been successful in several areas. The down control over Northern Ireland. The power of the Orange order was broken. The IRA campaign was noted for years by Scotch and Welsh nationalists and their MP's at Westminster. Now Westminster realizes it must give self government to Scotland and Wales, and a few weeks ago, Harold Wilson conceded this fact. It's all a matter of time. Britain's NATO members have placed Britain on trial at Strasbourg

for the suppression of human rights and the torture of political prisoners, all in violation of the Human Rights

by Pat Molony

Convention of the Council of Europe. A few weeks ago the Human Rights Commission found Britain guilty of torturing political prisoners and

suspending human rights. These Northern Irish cases have been highly embarrassing to the British government, especially in Europe. It should be noted that Irish Republicans were largely responsible for the institution of these suits against Britain. Critics of the IRA prefer to ignore all this, but the facts

cannot be changed. The demise of Harold Wilson can be in some measure, laid at the feet of the Irish Republican Movement. Who will be next? Ireland unfree will never be at peace, and an unfree Ireland means a Britain in turmoil and disintegration.

## A NEW KIND OF TORTURE

A very serious situation has now arisen with regard to the New Act about to be officially implemented here in the North of Ireland. We have, over the past few days received numerous complaints from the parents of young people who have been taken into custody. The parents complain that their sons were refused permission to see their sons by the RUC. One mother who attempted to see her son at Springfield Road Barracks was refused and so also was the boy's family doctor. However, whilst she was sitting in the barracks she observed another young boy being taken out into a saracan and was obviously in a very distressed state.

The Prevention of Terrorism Act means that a person can be held 'incommunic-

ado' for 7 days. During this time the victim may be subjected to all forms of torture, either physical or mental

He is permitted no communication whatsoever with the outside world and is entirely at the mercy of his interrogators. We know only too well the effect that has had on very young people, and indeed we have observed recently the number of signed written statements' which have emanated from such places as Castlereagh and Springfield Road RUC Station.

We view this whole situation as very sinister and we know that there is grave disquiet among the legal profession at this new legislation. It is the most gross violation of basic human rights

It affords its victims no chance of justice. The RUC have been boasting of their 'so-called successful detection rates' but it is a matter of record that most of these types of cases are withdrawn within the following 6 months. This type of legislation presents a new form of internment by re-

main.

This powerful, new weapon of repression places in the hands of the biggest RUC the completely control over the freedom of every citizen in the 6 counties. It is time now for the members of the legal profession who have expressed concern to speak out for forcefully now.

PATRICIA DAVIDSON,  
PRO.

## RN SELLERS ARRESTED

Maura Lyons and her daughter, Doreen, have been jailed by the Blueshirts Courts in Dublin for selling Republican News.

Doreen was recently released after serving a 2 week sentence for the same alleged 'offence.' The Lyons family have been subjected to repeated harassment since they began distribution of REPUBLICAN NEWS in the Dublin area. Mr Lyons small shop is under constant surveillance by Free State Secret Police who are determined to smash the sale of the paper in the 26 counties. We can assume both our readers and the quibbling politicians in Leinster House that REPUBLICAN NEWS WILL NOT BOW TO THE PRESSURES of the British agents in Dublin Castle. The Lyons family represent the heart of the Irish peoples' resistance and have the support of the entire movement in their struggle for freedom of expression in the Gombeen State. Cooney and his lackeys will one day answer to the wrath of the Ulster people.

# DOWN DUBLIN STREETS

Down Dublin Streets I walked that night,  
And saw the buildings where they did fight,  
The Citizen Army and Volunteers,  
Who fought the english and knew no fear.

By Sackville Street to the G.P.O.  
And on to North King Street I did go,  
'Round Reilly's Fort and Church Street Hall  
Where Daly made the Khakies fall.

Across the Liffey to Heuston's Post,  
In Moira House with Lord Edward's Ghost,  
They held their fort, tho' roof ablaze,  
Not for three hours, but o'er three days.

Above the hill to the Workhouse land,  
With Ceannt and Brugha, there in Command,  
When shooting ceased, and fires burned low.  
A prayer was breathed for brave Nurse Keogh.

Back down I walked to the Surgeon's Hall,  
The Plough and Stars flag over all,  
A Countless fighting by Mallin's side,  
As Citizen Soldiers bravely died.

I turned down Cuffe Street to Redmond's Hill,  
Where MacDonagh's men fought with skill,  
Against British Soldiers by the score,  
The men in Jacobs were to the fore.

Around Georgian Streets to the Kingstown Road  
The Sherwood Foresters came load by load,  
But the brave thirteen stopped their attack,  
At Mount Street Bridge they were driven back.

From Boland'd Mill to the Fairview Strand,  
Young boys and girls with each command,  
At Dublin Castle Sean Connolly dies,  
As the Republic's flag o'er the city flies.

When e'er you go down a Dublin Street,  
You may be sure that there did meet,  
Our Freedom Fighters from Tone to South,  
And those who'll follow the cause throughout.

Eamonn Mac Thomais.

# CLANWILLIAM HOUSE

On Easter Monday morning Lieutenant Michael Malone led a party of men along the Mount Street Bridge. He sent George Reynolds and four other men to take over Clanwilliam House which was beside the bridge and with a full view of the roadway. Four other Volunteers were detailed to take up positions in the Parochial Hall a few yards from the bridge. Three others were sent to take over the school opposite the Hall and Malone and three volunteers took over 25 Northumberland Road a corner house which had a view of the side roads which led to Baggott Street and Beggars Bush barracks. Positions taken they waited.....

That evening a party of

British soldiers returning to Beggars Bush barrack were fired on by Malone and his small garrison and they killed and wounded several soldiers. The rest of the party fled in panic. Malone who knew that their position was in grave danger and he was very worried, not for himself but for the two boys who were with him and with Grace in number 25.

Early on Tuesday morning Malone re-arranged his forces he sent the two young boys home. He knew that they would not stand much of a chance and he told them they were too young. "They're only children" he said, "they're too young to die." He and Grace now held the house by themselves. The men in the school were later withdrawn and

the entire area was now held by 13 men, 3 extra men» having been asked for by Clanwilliam House.



Some Volunteers are marched along Bachelor's Walk to one of the military prisons.

# IN EMMETS PARISH

On the roof of Jacobs factory and in the windows of the top floor, MacDonagh put his men in position. From their bird's-eye view of the Castle they gave the British soldiers plenty to worry about. Every hour, every day and every night the men in Jacobs kept up the firing on the Birmingham Tower and the door-ways and windows of Dublin Castle.

and windows of Dublin Castle. It took the British quite a few days to realise where the firing was coming from. Then

all troop movements in the Castle Yard were stopped. Other British troops who tried to hold a parade in Patrick's Park nearby quickly scattered and ran for cover when they were spotted by the Volunteers. Contact was kept between Mac Donagh and Mallin in Stephen's Green and for the whole week the entire command was under their command. Outposts in Cuffe Street, Peter Street and Redmonds

Hill must have seen his ghosts of the Invincibles. Because it was around here that the Invincibles were formed, that they drilled, that they waited for attacks. No, they had not suffered and died in vain. In their very footprints men now stand. British troops led by two officers are marching down Camden Street—left, right, left, right, left. Their information is quickly changed as they reach Bishop Street. Volunteers open fire.

at close range. Eight British soldiers fall, some dead, some wounded.

"Retreat! retreat! The order is obeyed as the rest of the British party scatter and vanish out of sight.

The ambulance workers move in to attend to the wounded. Volunteers are ordered to hold fire until the finish their task. Ten minutes later the roadway is clear and the volunteers sit and wait for the next attack. McBride daily inspects all positions and reports to Mac Donagh who is

From his almost impreg-

From his command post  
Mac donagh looked  
out over the city of  
Dublin. He could see the fires  
blazing in many garrisons and  
he wondered and prayed for  
those who were in command of  
such garrisons. He could hear  
the Helga shelling Liberty  
Hall and the G.P.O., and al-  
though his own position looked  
good and he was fully in  
command, he wondered. Yes,  
he just wondered, what of the  
other commands.

# OUTSIDE THE PALE

The hands that fought the hearts that broke  
In old immortal tragedies  
These have not failed beneath the skies  
Their childrens heads refuse the yoke.

Joseph Mary Plunkett.

When World War I started in 1914 the Supreme Council of the Irish Republican Brotherhood quickly saw that England's difficulty was Ireland's opportunity and they set about planning for a rising. All over the country men were trained, arms were bought and German aid was sought by Roger Casement. A close eye was kept on James Connolly and the Labour Movement. The Irish Citizen Army had been the spearhead of resistance since 1913 and Connolly was planning for a Worker's Revolution. Contact was soon made and Connolly agreed to the ~~Revolutionary Committee~~ was soon made and Connolly agreed to the plans submitted, made a few changes in his own plans and the Military Council were on the job.

The final draft was prepared and adopted, the proclamation printed in Liberty Hall and a deadline fixed.

Although most of the 1916 Rising was confined to Dublin Streets this was not the original idea. The commanding orders prevented the country from rising as Terence MacSwiney said when he was dying on hunger strike in Brixton Prison in October, 1920. "The pain of Easter Week is gone at last."

Gallant efforts were made in Galway, Louth, Wexford, Kerry and by the Kent brothers in Cork. Volunteers came to Dublin from England the North and the Midlands—all to help to establish the sovereign Irish Republic. The failure of the arms landing, the arrest of Casement and the drowning of three Volunteers were the main reasons why the Munster counties did not rise.

If only each of the 32 counties had been like Dublin the story of 1916 might well have had a different ending. England would not have had enough troops to crush the Irish and liberty for Ireland would have been gained. When we consider the fact that Dublin plans, the garrisons and outposts held by the Volunteers and Irish Citizen Army supported by Cumann na mBan and na Fianna Eireann held out against the full strength of the British military in Ireland for one week, the country could have held out for years.

Dublin city was held at every important point. British barracks were hemmed in by outposts and snipers or rooftops and in doorways.

In North County Dublin Thomas Ashe and his fifty men were on the move. They attacked barracks after barracks and soon Donabate, Swords, Garristown and Ashbourne were captured and each flew the tricolour of the Irish Republic. The railway

lines were blown up and the Fingal Brigade swept over the land like brave Father John Murphy in '98. In Skerries the British Military were holding war demonstrations and a recruiting parade. Ladies in gay bonnets watched the redcoat soldiers march by as the band played "Britannia rules the waves." From the platform the loyalists made their speeches and pledged their allegiance to His Majesty, the King.

The British warship having



Casement, hanged in Pentonville Prison, London, on August 3, 1916.

carried out its programme headed back to its base. The loyal speakers were wondering why their chairman had not arrived when word reached them that the rail line had been blown up by those terrible Sinn Feiners. When the rumours started it was reported that the Germans had landed at Skerries with 5,000 men and they were marching on the city led by bands playing "Let Erin Remember." A party of R.I.C. were ambushed near Rathcross and several fell dead, others wounded and the remainder taken prisoners. By now the rumour had the R.I.C. and the British really worried.

Thomas Ashe was supposed to have linked up with the Germans. When the final surrender order came Ashe sent a messenger to Pearse in Arbour Hill to ask him if it was any good that they might hold out and continue on a guerrilla basis. When the messenger returned they handed over their arms and surrendered near Kil-sallagh.

Again the British could not believe that Ashe had such a small number of men and they continued to search the countryside looking for the 5,000 men.



# "WE'LL SEE YOU DEAD FIRST"

In Cork, MacSwiney and MacCurtain were ready to fight — then came the countermanding orders.

Early on the morning of May 2, a party of armed R.I.C. led by Head Constable Rowe arrived at the Kent home in Lower Coole near Fermoy. "Open the door, it's the police," rang out the order.

"We'll never open the door," came the reply, "we will see you dead first."

The R.I.C. opened fire which was answered by rifle and shotgun fire. Constable Rowe fell dead. For over an hour the battle raged. Then reinforcements arrived, soldiers from the 14th and 15th Royal Fusiliers. They threatened to burn the house and the Kent brothers — Thomas Richard, David and William decided to surrender to save their ninety year old mother, who was in the house with them.

Richard tried to escape and he was shot dead. Thomas was later executed outside his mother's house. David was sentenced to death but the sentence was commuted to 5 years penal servitude. William was acquitted.

## LEADERS CAPTURED

In Kerry Austin Stack and local leaders who were planning an attack to release Casement were captured. The 300 Volunteers were now without leaders — none of them knew the plans or what to do. They waited may hours not knowing what had happened and when no one showed up to lead them they gradually left for home.

## REDMOND'S VOLUNTEERS

Enniscorthy was not in flames on April 27, 1916 when 600 Volunteers led by Robert Brennan captured the town, established their headquarters, appointed sentries and Republican police and allowed no one to enter or leave the town without a Republican permit. From the castle and Vinegar Hill the rebels fired and beat back anyone who tried to enter without permission.

Redmond's Volunteers turned out to help the British and the R.I.C. British reinforcements of 1,800 had the town surrounded when news came of the surrender in Dublin. A messenger was taken to Pearse in Arbour Hill and Pearse told him he surrendered because he saw the British soldiers shooting the people in the streets, burning their houses and it was to save the people from slaughter that they laid down their arms.

## CASTLEBELLINGHAM

In military formation the Volunteers left Dundalk and marched to Ardee. Road blocks were set up and R.I.C. prisoners taken. The men then marched back to Castlebellingham where they took over the R.I.C. barracks and dispatches which had arrived from Dublin to Dundalk.

At their court-martial in Richmond Barracks on June 9, 1916 four men were charged: "that they, near Castlebellingham, Co. Louth on April 24, 1916 whilst engaged in armed rebellion and the waging of war against His Majesty the King did kill and wound members of the forces of the Crown. Two of them were sentenced to death (later commuted to penal servitude for life) and two others were sentenced to life imprisonment.

# They shall rise again

"It is not the will of the majority which ultimately prevails, that which ultimately prevails is the ideal of the noblest in each generation." James Connolly.

"The men will rise, Charlotte — Make no mistake about it, I can feel it in the wind They shall rise again."

But poor Charlotte in this year of the King 1911 could not see any sign of men rising. Indeed to her the Fenian spirit was dead. Union Jacks covered the city streets—red, white and blue banners—khaki clad Lancers lined the sidewalks and the people, the people for whom so many suffered and died were cheering and waving the Royal procession as it made its way to the Viceregal Lodge, Was it Grafton Street, Dublin? Or Regent Street, London? It was hard to know. Redcoat soldiers to the front; redcoat soldiers to the rear, and the houses and shop fronts each with its own fringed banner—

"God Save Our King Long May He Reign..."

No, Charlotte could not see any sign of men rising. And yet unknown to the poor Dublin mother, men were thinking in terms of rising.

Na Fianna Eireann which had been formed in 1909 was slowly reviving military spirit in Ireland. Already men of different opinions were united on one point: "That England was the cause of all our trouble."

Within two years Dublin quickly changed its appearance, 1913. Baton charges in Sackville Street—Larkin arrested—**STRIKE ON HERE**—trams left in city streets—lock-outs—**STRIKE ON HERE**. Food ships into Dublin Port—No work until you sign a pledge—To Hell with signing **STRIKE ON HERE**—Connolly in Command—Irish Citizen Army protects Dublin citizens. Liberty Hall strikes its Slogans:

"NIL SAORSE GAN SAORSE LUATH OIBRE" and "we serve neither king nor KAISER BUT IRELAND!!!"

"leach one of you who read this that it is your duty to arm. Until you have armed yourself and made yourself skillful in the use of arms, you have no right to a voice in any concern of the Irish Nation, no right to consider yourself a member of the Irish Nation or of any nation, no right to raise your head among any decent body of men....Arm."

## PEARSE.

The men had taken Pearse's words to heart, they were promised arms and arms came. In July, 1914 one thousand rifles were landed at Howth by Erksine Childers' yacht. Time marched by, drilling, training, organising, planning, watching, waiting. Volunteers split by Redmond. Threats of arrest by Dublin Castle. Agreement with Connolly and the Irish Citizen Army. Hopes of German aid. Disaster on Banna Strand. Casement arrested. Volunteers drowned. Arms ship scuttled. Rising—No—Counter Orders. Then, finally, the Dawning of the Day.

Early on Easter Monday morning as the holiday-makers were leaving town for the countryside and seashore, members of the Irish Volunteers, the Irish Republican Brotherhood, the Irish Citizen Army, Cumann na mBan, the Girl Scouts, and Na Fianna Eireann were making their way to the various meeting places.

By twelve noon the city heard the sound of marching men, as each section filed quickly into its garrison or out post. Positions taken up. Union Jacks torn from the masts, the Green, White and Orange flag of the Irish Republic was hoisted. Proclamations posted on walls and buildings and at the General Post Office, Sackville Street, Headquarters Command. Commandant Pearse steps out and reads aloud for the world to hear:



Thomas Clarke



Seán Mac Diarmada



P. H. Pearse



James Connolly

# POBLACHT NA H EIREANN. THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE IRISH REPUBLIC TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.

IRISHMEN AND IRISHWOMEN: In the name of God and of the dead generations from whom she receives her old tradition of nationhood, Ireland, through us, summons her children to her flag and strikes for her freedom.

Having organised and trained her manhood through her secret revolutionary organisation, the Irish Republican Brotherhood, and through her open military organisations, the Irish Volunteers and the Irish Citizen Army, having patiently perfected her discipline, having resolutely waited for the right moment to reveal itself, she now seizes that moment, and, supported by her exiled children in America and by gallant allies in Europe, but relying in the first on her own strength, she strikes in full confidence of victory.

We declare the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland, and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies, to be sovereign and indefeasible. The long usurpation of that right by a foreign people and government has not extinguished the right, nor can it ever be extinguished except by the destruction of the Irish people. In every generation the Irish people have asserted their right to national freedom and sovereignty: six times during the past three hundred years they have asserted it in arms. Standing on that fundamental right and again asserting it in arms in the face of the world, we hereby proclaim the Irish Republic as a Sovereign Independent State, and we pledge our lives and the lives of our comrades-in-arms to the cause of its freedom, of its welfare, and of its exaltation among the nations.

The Irish Republic is entitled to, and hereby claims, the allegiance of every Irishman and Irishwoman. The Republic guarantees religious and civil liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities to all its citizens, and declares its resolve to pursue the happiness and prosperity of the whole nation and of all its 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.

Until our arms have brought the opportune moment for the establishment of a permanent National Government, representative of the whole people of Ireland and elected by the suffrages of all her men and women, the Provisional Government, hereby constituted, will administer the civil and military affairs of the Republic in trust for the people.

We place the cause of the Irish Republic under the protection of the Most High God. Whose blessing we invoke upon our arms, and we pray that no one who serves that cause will dishonour it by cowardice, inhumanity, or rapine. In this supreme hour the Irish nation must, by its valour and discipline and by the readiness of its children to sacrifice themselves for the common good, prove itself worthy of the august destiny to which it is called.

Signed on Behalf of the Provisional Government,

THOMAS J. CLARKE,

SEAN Mac DIARMADA, THOMAS MacDONAGH,

P. H. PEARSE, JAMES CONNOLLY.

EAMONN CEANNAT,

JOSEPH PLUNKETT



Sean Mac Diarmada



P. H. Pearse



James Connolly

EASTER WEEK the Long Kesh view

# SEAMUS O' CONGHAILE

## THE BLACK SHEEP

"Political and social freedom are not two separate and unrelated ideas, but are two sides of the one great principle each being incomplete without each other."

### THE GREATEST REVOLUTIONARY

Seamus O Conghaile, Irish patriot, the greatest revolutionary ever to have entered the illuminated Role of Honour of our Nation, today stands as the greatest indictment of the fascist Government in Leinster House. As we come along to the 60th Anniversary of the great Rising of Easter Week, 1916, our thoughts return to a period in Irish history which shall always be sacred and, we remember men who shall be held in high regard...Tomas O Cleirigh, Padraig Mac Piarais, Sean Mac Diarmada, Thomas Mac Donnchadh, Eamonn Ceannat, Seosamh M. Pluincéid agus Seamus O Conghaile. Household names throughout the nation and men who are revered whenever we think of our predecessors in the long history of the continuing Irish revolution. Now today, 60 years later as we begin to celebrate their magnificent achievement, we must also bear witness to the great abomination which is the Ireland of today, severed in two and completely unlike the nation envisaged by An Seachtar a Shínigh, that Easter Monday. But the most revolting aspect of all is the so called 'free' part of the nation, in which there is claimed to be full nationality and freedom. This puppet state of Britannia, a neo-colonialist half-nation, with a petty gombeen parliament and Government, subservient to Westminster, is the exact state which O Conghaile warned us off when, to quote him, "If you remove the English Army tomorrow and hoist the green flag over Dublin Castle, unless you set about the organisation of the Socialist Republic, your efforts would be in vain. England would still rule you. She would rule you through her capitalists, through her land lords, through her financiers, through her whole array of commercial and individualist institutions she has planted in this country and watered with the tears of our Mothers and the blood of our Martyrs. Nationalism without socialism without a reorganisation of society on the basis of a broader and more developed form of that common property which underlay the social structure of ancient Erin - is only national recency....."

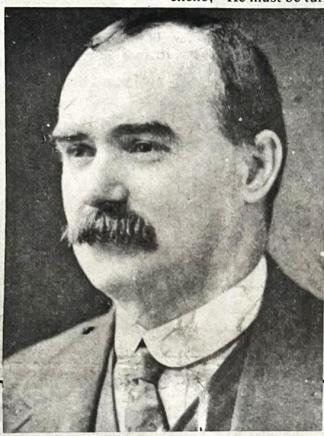
Today, 60 years later, the people in 'power' wish to ignore O Conghaile's words, for his words speak the greatest condemnation of the Fitzgerald's and Corish's of this world. O Conghaile has become the black sheep of the Easter martyrs. When the

States rush to proclaim their allegiance and faith in the authors of the Proclamation, they give scant attention to the main author himself. They don't even pay lip service to his ideals, his name is mentioned as one of the seven, but since he is persona non grata as far as the parties of big business in the Saorstát

satisfied. On this point O Conghaile highlights their inadequacies and their failure their deceit and treachery in unfulfilling the ideals of the signatories. The Ireland which O Conghaile fought and died for would have been a vastly different nation from the abortion which is Ireland today. To use the well worn cliché, "He must be turning in

point in the situation which exists today, is the part taken by the so-called 'Labour' Party in being a ruling partner with the Blueshirts. This party who would claim to be the direct descendants of O Conghaile, have never in any way attempted to play the part which history has moulded for them. The Leadership of present day 'Labour', Corish Keating and 'Brit' O'Brien etc., have become as much representatives of the propertied class as their co-partners in coalition. For these people to even pay lip service to the thoughts and words of O Conghaile is nauseating.

no worse sight to be seen in any of Europe's capitals - is evidence enough of the failure of these people! In industry the six digit figures of unemployed show even greater failure. The destruction of the native Irish culture is another great indictment on the Cosgrave (father and son) clique. The above is the Ireland of the seventies - the exact state which O Conghaile warned us about, so clearly, 60 years ago. And the above are the reasons why O' Conghaile has become the 'black sheep' of the seacháin shínigh (seven signatories). The pseudo-Irishmen of



"The land which O' Conghaile had foreseen and which he gave his life for would have been one in which the class divisions in our society would have been destroyed once and for all"

are concerned. The reason of course is obvious - O' Conghaile embarrasses them greatly. If they could refer to the past leaders of the Irish revolution as plainly nationalistic, striving to end the link with Britain, not interested in social reform, they would be

his grave" wouldn't be too far out of place. The divided nation, half still under foreign domination, another half ruled by the representatives of the capitalist class, subordinate to the whims of the Catholic Church, can in no way appear as the state which O' Conghaile wished.

present Coalition wish O' Conghaile to be overlooked - his thoughts, ideals and work are a living shame on them. But through all their efforts to distort history and renege on the words of O' Conghaile Mellowes and comrades, the words and ideals of these men O' Conghaile especially, shall live on within the true soul of the nation.

When Independence is finally achieved, it will be our duty to make sure that the 'men of no property' are no more. We must not fall into the trap of 'removing the English Army and hoisting the green flag and then leave it. We shall have achieved nothing except the changing of a ruling class, from foreign to native. This Easter let us rededicate ourselves to uphold the socialist ideals of O' Conghaile, Mellowes, Ryan and comrades, and pay them the permanent tribute of the establishment, in the near future, of a classless, sovereign Workers Republic.

Cage 10

## REFLECTIONS

The 60th anniversary of Easter week is upon us, and for many people will be a time for reflection of the events of the past 6 years. Thousands of people from all parts of the 32 counties will make their way to cemeteries, to apply homage to the volunteers of Oglaithe na hÉireann who have died on active service whilst fighting the oppression of English 'rule' in Ireland.

Prominent people will give orations and pledge the continuance of the Liberation struggle, until the demands of the Provisional Government are met.

The atmosphere at the commemorations will be a combination of joy and sorrow. Joy because Irishmen continue to fight and die for their

birthright, and sorrow because the British Government refuses to face reality and tries to maintain here economic interests in Ireland regardless of the cost to the Irish people. Buglers will sound the last post and people will quietly disperse exchanging well-wishers and wondering what such and such would have been like if they had not died for Ireland's cause.

Peoples resolve and faith will be reinforced and the demand for the Republican philosophy of life will reach new heights, regardless of the opposition and the obstacles. The men of 1916 did not think that their actions alone would achieve independence. Their sacrifices were intended to show, the apathetic Irish that

it was their duty to rid Ireland of foreign domination and to build a country for themselves and their children to live in.

August 1969 was the spark which reignited the people's awareness and made possible the present campaign. Great credit is due to the Irish people who in the face of sell outs and British Army oppression have continued to support the struggle for national liberation.

Since the opening of the final campaign, some 160 volunteers have died. These volunteers recognised as did their forefathers that only through armed resistance could Ireland ever achieve her rightful place among the free nations of the earth.

In the face of almost overwhelming odds they success-

fully resisted the British war machine. As a result of their actions and no others the Stormont regime was toppled and another milestone was reached on the road to Irish unity. However many obstacle still exist not least of all the Quislings who control the 26 counties. The funeral of Frank Staff highlighted the extremes to which these people will go. The Irish Republican Army is hounded on all sides by these Free State fascists but their attempts to defeat the Republican Movement will come to nothing.

August 1969 was the spark which reignited the people's awareness and made possible the present campaign.

We are confident that the Irish people will continue to support the fight for justice and righteousness and we are equally confident that the days of the British occupation are numbered.

# EASTER WEEK

## PROPAGANDA BEING USED AGAINST SOCIALIST REVOLUTIONARIES

Easter Week is the time of year when we Republicans repledge our dedication and determination to make the establishment of a 32 county democratic Republic which our forefathers set out to establish 60 years ago, become a reality.

I think at this time it is worth noting that those patriotic Revolutionaries of 60 years past, were as with their fellow revolutionaries of today, scorned and castigated by the Irish-English establishments who by their use of a compromised News media, portrayed them as 'Criminals.'

We heard today such phrases as, "criminally insane," "reckless criminality," etc. etc. coming from Irish/English politicians when referring to military operations carried out by the IRA against the British establishment.

60 years ago the same establishment used the same phrases when referring to the 'Men of Easter week' and in particular the leaders, such as Pearse and Connolly who were responsible for giving to the Irish Nation its most prized possession, the 1916 Proclamation. It was said that the leaders of the rising were mentally unbalanced" and "traitors" etc., etc.

Since the start of this present and final campaign to rid Ireland of British interference 160 Vols of the IRA have given their lives for the same aspirations and principles as those of Pearse, Connolly, Clarke and their comrades.

It is also interesting to note that such black propaganda has been, and is being used, against people (Socialist Revolutionaries in particular) who are fighting for their freedom against Capitalist-Imperialist Establishments. During the Vietnamese Peoples struggle for Freedom, we heard their fight described by many prominent American politicians as being a "Communist criminal conspiracy." The Vietnamese Revolutionaries eventually succeeded in uniting their country and riding it of foreign interference.



U.S. Ambassador John G. Dean fleeing Phnom Penh with the American flag tucked under his arm. The Vietnamese revolutionaries eventually succeeded in uniting their country and riding it of foreign interference.

used the criminality tactic before once again, she is trying to use it. For the British to re-embark on this scurillous and panic stricken tactic, only shows that they are, to coin a phrase, "on their knees." Their armed occupation force is demoralised, and since the inevitable fall of the Convention, another of Britains undemocratically imposed solutions to what they term the Irish problem, it has become increasingly more apparent that the only road open to Britain is, after 800 years of bloody conflict, to negotiate an honourable and phased withdrawal from Ireland.

At this Easter time, we ask you are people to remain steadfast in your support for the Republican Movement, and with that support and the determination of the Republican Movement itself, the day of that long awaited British withdrawal shall be hastened.

As I pointed out earlier, the British establishment has

## the Long Kesh view

# CRIMINALITY

## PROPAGANDA

### Nothing New

Easter has always been an emotive time for the Republican population of Ireland, commemorating as it does the rising of 1916, when a small group of dedicated individuals breathed new life into the dying body of Irish Republicanism.

totally and uncompromisingly condemned the military campaign of the Irish Republican Army while at the same time giving only brief mention to Sectarian Assassinations, and to the well documented murders and atrocities of the British Army and its cohorts.

attempted was an act of brigandage pure and simple... no reason to lament that its perpetrators have met the fate ...universally reserved for traitors." In particular it is noticeable that part of any smear campaign against the Republican Movement also



Captured Volunteers are marched along the Quays on their way to prison ships. People spot on the men and called them 'murderers', a few short years later the same people were hanging photographs of the Easter leaders on the walls of their homes.

This year we celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of that famous occasion and it is interesting to reflect at this juncture in Irish History, how this, the final campaign for the establishment of a 32 county Republic, compares with the original rising in 1916.

In particular I'm thinking of the use of the criminality propaganda by the British and their native quisling allies, and of the attitude of the establishment groups, such as the Catholic Hierarchy.

by  
R.G. McAuley

In the case of the Catholic Hierarchy, last year saw the publication of the pastoral letter dealing with the "Sacrifice of Life." This was a very admirable and in the main very courageous piece of theology, unfortunately, it was in part blinded by the Hierarchy's blatantly pro-establishment philosophy. As was the case following the rising and the execution of the 16 leaders, the Catholic Hierarchy in dealing with political violence spent 99% of its time and energy in attacking the Republican Movement.

The pastoral letter of 1975

Not once did it attempt to deal with the political violence of the British establishment which undoubtedly provoked the Republican Movement into initiating its new campaign. Where in the pastoral letter did it mention job discrimination, gerrymandering of electoral boundaries, brutal oppression of peaceful demonstrators in search of justice and equality? As was the case in 1916 the Catholic Hierarchy looked at the violence, condemned the violence, but totally failed to examine the root causes of the violence.

In regard to the criminality propaganda, the British are spending thousands of pounds in an effort to fool the Irish people, as well as those in other countries who support our cause, into believing that Republicans are all criminals and that the present campaign is a criminal conspiracy. If we examine the news reports of 60 years ago, we might almost be excused for believing they deal with the present conflict. For example, on April 29th, 1916, the Irish Catholic loudly proclaimed "The movement...was as criminal as insane." Now where have we heard that before.

Again after the barbaric execution of James Connolly, R.G. McAuley, Cage 12, it was stated "What was

includes smearing its leaders and its individual members, and this has been recently seen in the lies and inuendoes used by the British and Irish media against Frank Stagg. In the case of this brave Volunteer the truth was used to persuade the public that this man was undeserving of their support.

In 1916, after his execution it was said of Pearse, "Pearse was a man of ill-balanced mind, if not actually insane... selecting him as chief magistrate was enough to create serious doubt of the sanity of those who approved...crazy and insolent schoolmaster..... extraordinary combination of rogues and fools."

As can be seen from all the above, the use of the criminality propaganda is not unusual, in fact something would have been seriously amiss if the British had not used it, and as for the attacks by establishment groups and individuals they are to not unusual in these circumstances. In the final analysis it will be those who are prepared to stand up and be counted who will ultimately succeed in liberating Ireland. Bua no Bas.

Fitt Cage.

Michael McVerry



Michael Gaughan



### Belfast 1st. Battalion

Belfast, 1st Batt.

Tony Henderson 4th April 71. Vol.  
 Terence McDermott 2nd Oct. 71. Lieut.  
 Martin Forsythe 24th Oct. 71. Sec. Com.  
 Tony Jordan 30th June 72. Vol.  
 John Finucaine 30th June 72. Lieut.  
 Francis Hall 30th Aug. 73. Staff Officer.  
 Gerard Fennell 15th Nov. 74. Lieut.  
 Sean McDermott 5th April. 76. Staff Officer.

### Belfast 2nd. Battalion

Liam McParland 6th Nov. 69. Lieut.  
 Peter Blake 27th Oct. 70. Vol.  
 Tom McGoldrick 27th Oct. 70. Capt.  
 Charles Hughes 8th March 71. Lieut.  
 Seamus Simpson 10th Aug. 71. Vol.  
 Danny O'Neill 7th Jan. 72. Vol.  
 Albert Kavanagh 4th March 72. Vol.  
 Gerard Crossan 9th March 72. Lieut.  
 Tony Lewis 9th March 72. Lieut.  
 Sean Johnston 9th March 72. Lieut.  
 Tom McCann 29th March 72. Vol.  
 Patrick Campbell 11th Aug. 72. Vol.  
 Michael Clarke 29th Sept. 72. Vol.  
 James Quigley 3rd Oct. 72. Vol.  
 Daniel McAreavey 10th Oct. 72. Lieut.  
 Patrick Maguire 10th Oct. 72. Vol.  
 John Donaghy 10th Oct. 72. Vol.  
 Joseph McKinney 18th Jan. 73. Vol.  
 Francis Liggitt 13th Feb. 73. Vol.  
 Stan Carberry 13th April 73. Lieut.  
 Edward O'Rawe 31st Aug. 73. Lieut.  
 Patrick Mulvenna 22nd Sept. 73. Capt.  
 James Bryson 22nd Jan. 75. Lieut.  
 John Kelly 22nd Jan. 73. Lieut.  
 John Stone 10th Aug. 74. Lieut.  
 Martin Skillen 1st Dec. 75. Lieut.  
 Paul Fox 12th Feb. 76. Lieut.  
 Sean Bailey 15th Feb. 76. Lieut.

### Belfast 3rd. Battalion

Henry McIlhorne 27th June 70. Vol.  
 Michael Kane 4th Sept. 70. Vol.  
 James Kane 6th Feb. 71. Lieut.  
 James Saunders 15th May. 71. Lieut.  
 Billy Reid 9th Aug. 71. Lieut.  
 Patrick McAdorey 8th Dec. 71. Vol.  
 Tony Nolan 21st Dec. 71. Capt.  
 Gerard McDade 10th Feb. 72. Lieut.  
 Joseph Cunningham 21st Feb. 72. Lieut.  
 Gerard Bell 21st Feb. 72. Lieut.  
 Gerard Steele 21st Feb. 72. Vol.  
 Robert Dorrian 21st Feb. 72. Vol.  
 Joseph Magee 8th April 72. Vol.  
 Samuel Hughes 8th April 72. Vol.  
 Charles McCrystal 8th April 72. Vol.

# 1969

# ROLL OF HONO

John McErlean 8th April 72. Vol.  
 Edward McDonnell 28th May 72. Lieut.  
 Jackie McIlhone 28th May 72. Lieut.  
 Joseph Fitzsimmons 28th May 72. Capt.  
 Martin Engelen 28th May 72. Lieut.  
 Joseph Downey 4th July 72. Vol.  
 Seamus Cassidy 28th July 72. Sec. Com.  
 James Reid 15th July 72. Vol.  
 Louis Scullion 14th July 72. Vol.  
 Robert McCrudden 3rd Aug. 72. Vol.  
 Tony Campbell 4th Feb. 73. Vol.  
 James Sloan 4th Feb. 73. Vol.  
 James McCann 4th Feb. 73. Vol.  
 Patrick McCabe 27th Mar. 73. Vol.  
 Brendan Smyth 17th April. 73. Vol.  
 Seamus McCusker Oct. 31st. 75. Vol.

Billy Reid



Patrick Mulvenna



Paul Fox



Danny O'Neill



Jim Bryson



Owen Martin



'Mundo' O'Rawe



Fian Michael Sloan



Sean McKearney

### Na Fianna Eireann

Gerald McAuley 15th Aug. 69. Belfast.  
 Eamon McCormick Sept. 71. Belfast.  
 Patrick Campbell 19th Mar. 72. Belfast.  
 Michael Sloan 11th Jan. 72. Belfast.  
 David McAuley 14th Feb. 72. Belfast,  
 Sean O'Riordan 23rd Mar. 72. Belfast.  
 Michael Magee 13th May. 72. Belfast.  
 John Dougal 9th July. 72. Belfast.  
 Bernard Fox 4th Dec. 72. Belfast.  
 Sean Hughes Dec. 72. Belfast.  
 Joseph McComiskey 72. Belfast.  
 Michael Marley 24th Nov. 72. Belfast.  
 Joseph Campbell June. 72. Belfast.  
 Tobias Molloy July. 75. Strabane  
 Robert Allsop Mar. 75. Belfast  
 James O'Neill 13th Feb. 76. Belfast.

### Cumann Na mBan

Cumann Na mBan  
 Julie Dougan Aug. 72. Portadown  
 Dorothy Maguire 23rd Oct. 72. Belfast.  
 Anne Parker 11th Aug. 72. Belfast.  
 Pauline Kane July. 73. Newcastle  
 Vivienne Fitzsimmons Aug. 73. Downpatrick.  
 Ann Pettigrew 1st Sept. 73. Belfast.  
 Ethel Lynch 2nd Dec. 74. Derry  
 Laura Crawford 1st Dec. 75. Belfast  
 Rosemary Bleakeley 13th Jan. 76. Belfast.

### South Armagh

South Armagh  
 Michael McVerry 15th Nov. 73. Capt.  
 Sean Boyle Feb. 75. Capt.  
 Sean Campbell 8th Dec. 75. Capt.  
 James Loughrey 8th Dec. 75. O/C  
 Francis Jordan Nov. 74. Lieut.



Ann Parker



Sean McKearney

# F HONOUR

# 1976



Sean McDermott

Patrick Mulvenna



Danny O'Neill



Owen Martin



Sloan



Daniel McAnallen  
Patrick Quinn  
Sean Loughran  
Patrick Carty  
Dermot Crowley (Cork)  
Patrick McDonald  
Kevin Murray  
Owen Martin  
Sean McKearney

## Dungannon

16th Aug. 73. Capt.  
16th Aug. 73. Vpl.  
25th June 73. Lieut.  
25th June 73. Lieut.  
25th June 73. Vol.  
13th Mar. 73. Vol.  
15th Mar. 73. Vol.  
13th Mar. 74. Vol.  
13th Mar. 74. Vol.



Ann Marie Pettigrew



Jim McGrillen



Patrick McDonald

## Derry Brigade

Thomas McCool	27th June	70.	Capt.
Thomas Carlin	27th June	70.	Vol.
Joseph Coyle	27th June	70.	Capt.
Eamon Lafferty	18th Aug.	71.	Capt.
James O'Hagan	19th Aug.	71.	Vol.
Colm Keenan	14th Mar.	72.	Capt.
Eugene McGillan	14th Mar.	72.	Vol.
John Starrs	13th May	72.	Vol.
James Bradley	31st July	72.	Vol.
John Brady	28th Nov.	72.	Lieut.
James Carr	28th Nov.	72.	Vol.
James McDaid	29th Dec.	72.	Capt.
Michael Quigley		72.	Vol.
Gerard Craig	1st July	74.	Vol.
David Russell	1st July	74.	Vol.
Samuel Walker			Vol.
Michael Meenan	6th Nov.	74.	Vol.
John McDaid	7th Dec.	74.	Vol.

## Co. Derry

James Sheridan	Dec.	72.	Vol.
Martin Lee	18th Dec.	71.	Vol.
John Bateson	18th Dec.	71.	Vol.

## Strabane

Eugene Devlin	Dec.	72.	Vol.
James Maginn	15th Dec.	73.	Capt.

## Toome

Phelim Grant	Feb.	72.	Vol.
Charles McCann.	Feb.	72.	Vol.

## Co. Tyrone

Jimmy McGlynn	Aug.	73.	Vol.
Seamus Harvey	Aug.	73.	Vol.
Tony Ahearne (Cork)	10th May.	73.	Vol.

## Coalisland

Denis Quinn	3rd July	72.	Vol.
Kevin Kilpatrick	13th May	73.	Lieut.
Desmond Morgan	26th Nov.	73.	Vol.

## Newry

Colm Murtagh	July	72.	Vol.
Patrick Hughes	22nd Aug.	72.	Capt.
Oliver Rowntree	22nd Aug.	72.	O/C.
Noel Madden	22nd Aug.	72.	Vol.
Brendan Quinn	24th Dec.	73.	Vol.
Edward Grant	24th Dec.	73.	Vol.
Patrick McKeown	27th Aug.	74.	Vol.
Michael Hughes	18th Oct.	74.	Vol.

## Downpatrick

John Carlin	26th Aug.	72.	O/C.
John Curran	26th Aug.	72.	Vol.
Leo O'Hanlon		Aug. 73.	O/C.

## Castlewellan

Peter McNulty	Jan.	72.	O/C.
Paul Magorrian	24th Aug.	74.	Adj.

## Fermanagh

Louis Leonard	Dec.	72.	Vol.
Kevin Cohen (Sligo)	21st Jan.	75.	Vol.

## Newcastle

Alphonsus Cunningham	July	73.	Vol.
----------------------	------	-----	------

## Long Kesh

Patrick Teer	22nd July	74.	Vol.
Francis Dodds	15th Sept.	73.	Vol.
Hugh Coney	6th Nov.	74.	Vol.
James Moyne	13th Jan.	75.	Vol.

## Dublin G.H.Q.

Jack McCabe	27th Dec.	71.	QMG
Thomas O'Donnell	17th May.	73.	Capt.

## Prison

Parkhurst Prison			
Michael Gaughan	3rd June	74.	Vol.
Wakefield Prison			
Francis Stagg	12th Feb.	76.	Lieut.

## Portlaoise Prison

Thomas Smith	17th Mar.	75.	Vol.
--------------	-----------	-----	------

## England

James McDaid	14th Nov.	74.	Lieut.
Brian Fox	21st Dec.	74.	Capt.

## Lurgan

Michael Crossey	22nd Nov.	71.	Lieut.
John Greene	10th Jan.	75.	Capt.

Sean McKearney

# Sean Connolly and Dublin Castle

"You have intimated to us that you have no place about you where our treasure can be laid up. We give you a mandate to have a castle made there is a suitable place where you shall see best so as to Justice and if need be to defend the city, making it as strong as you can with good ditches and strong walls."

From the original Latin. The Mandate issued by King John on August 30, 1204 to his Justiciar in Ireland, Meiler Fitzhenry.

has seen some of our bravest and best. Only a few have escaped from its dungeons. Red Hugh O'Donnell and Art O'Neill escaped in 1591, Richard Nugent—Lord Delvin in 1607, Peter Talbot, Catholic Archbishop of Dublin, in 1678. No one dared go near the Castle—even to look up at the windows from the street might mean sudden death. Many men dreamed of attacking the Castle, only a few ever tried.

Silken Thomas failed in 1534. Robert Emmet failed in

know them all. Their movements have been well noted by my men. That Pearse is a trouble maker and he has a pack of rebels around him. Lord Wimbourne won't be able to sleep until they are all interned in England. Now here, Sir, are my plans for the raids and arrests."

The words were no sooner out of Major Price's mouth when he looked out the window and he could not believe his eyes. The sentry dropping his gun and running for life. The Gate policemen dead. Green clad men running about the Upper, Castle Yard, rifles and revolvers flashing. "By jove, they're attacking the Castle. The soldiers! The soldiers! Raise the alarm! Where are the soldiers?" he shouted. But it was all in vain, no one answered the Major's call.

Suddenly it dawned on him. "By jove, by jove, the soldiers are all on leave. We have only ten men defending the Castle."

What a day it would have been for Silken Thomas and his 600 men.

Sean Connolly of the Irish Citizen Army who led the attack with his small group of men had no way of knowing that he had almost succeeded in taking the Castle. It was the first time in the history of the Castle that there were less than 200 soldiers on guard. If only Sean Connolly had known. But the buildings were so far apart and the Castle covered such a wide area it was impossible to know how many soldiers were on guard. In fact it was only a very small group which was detailed to Sean Connolly, as the 1916 leaders did not think it was possible to take over the Castle. It was only as an outpost to be held at bay and not to be captured as a garrison.

Having captured the gate and the Upper Yard, Connolly, and a few men withdrew to the City Hall nearby, so as to have a position overlooking the Castle Yards. Other men took up position in the Evening Mail Office opposite the Castle Gate and for many hours these brave men and women kept the British at bay.

All day long that Easter Monday S.O.S. signals went out from the Castle Offices, to England, to the Curragh, to Richmond Barracks. "Reinforcements, Machine Guns, Armoured Cars." This time the call was not in vain.

A large force of British soldiers arrived from the Curragh and they raked the City Hall and the other outposts with machine gun fire and hand grenades. By Tues-



SEAN CONNOLLY

And so the Castle was built, on blood, sweat and tears because Fitzhenry had another mandate from our Lord the King of England, which gave him power to compel the citizens of Dublin to build the Castle without payment for their labour. Those who refused to work were tortured, imprisoned and in some cases hanged in public. After many long years of almost non-stop heaving and hauling the Castle was built. Amid great pomp and fuss the King's treasure was escorted to the most inner places, where it was guarded night and day by the king's soldiers. Within its walls the Castle had a palace fit for any king or queen and dungeons more terrible than the Black Hole of Calcutta.

For almost 700 years it was the seal of British rule in Ireland. Here kings and queens dined and lived, it was the residence of the masters' masters—the Viceroys, the Lord Lieutenant's Under Secretaries, the Chief Secretaries. Here Parliaments and Councils of State met. Here also the informers were paid, secret files were stored, agents sent out to spy and bring back reports on everyone who was anyone. The Castle masters knew all, it was they who held the power of life or death of the people.

The heads of many rebels have hung over the Castle gateways. Its torture chamber

1803, yet his rising was a great blow to the Castle masters. The very idea of anyone thinking of attacking the Castle was unheard of in 1803. They quickly inspected their fort—new walls were erected, steps were made and St. Werburghs church had its spire removed because it blocked the view of the Castle masters. So again they were safe within its walls, safe for 113 years and then!



The infamous Dublin Castle

Sit Matthew Nathan was worried. Mr. Birrell, the Chief Secretary, was in London and Sir Matthew did not like to make decisions alone. Major Price, County Inspector R.I.C., Inspector of Military Intelligence, Headquarters Command, was doing most of the talking.

It was Easter Monday, 1916. The Major and Sir Matthew were sitting in the Secretary's office in the Upper Yard of Dublin Castle.

"We can round up the whole bloody lot, Sir. We

day morning the British were in command of the area.

Captain Sean Connolly was killed in action during the fighting. Others who made the supreme sacrifice were Lieut. Sean O'Reilly, George Geoghan, Louis Byrne and Charles Darcy. Connolly who was aged 32 years had proven his skill as an orator and had appeared on Concert platforms with the Abbey Players. He was a great man at reciting fiery poetry. He left a widow and three children.

# James Connolly



The man was all shot through that came today  
Into the barrack square;  
A soldier I—I am not proud to say  
We killed him there;  
They brought him from the prison hospital.  
To see him in that chair  
I thought his smile would far more quickly call  
A man to prayer.

Maybe we cannot understand this thing  
That makes these rebels die,  
And yet all things love freedom and the Spring  
Clear in the sky!  
I think I would not do this deed again  
For all that I hold by;  
Gaze down my rifle at his breast—but then  
A soldier I.

They say that he was kindly—different too  
Apart from all the rest;  
A lover of the poor; and all shot through  
His wounds ill dress,  
He came before us, faced us like a man,  
Who knows a deeper pain  
Than blows or bullets—ere the world began;  
Died he in vain?

Ready present! And he just smiling—God!  
I felt my rifle shake,  
His wounds were opened and round that chair  
Was one red lace;  
I swear his lips said 'Fire!' when all was still  
Before my rifle spat  
That cursed lead—And I was picked to kill  
A man like that.

\* \* \* \* Liam MacGabhann

## The Rose Tree

'O words are lightly spoken.'  
Said Pearse to Connolly,  
'Maybe a breath of politic words  
Has withered our Rose Tree;  
Or maybe but a wind that blows across the bitter sea.'

'It needs to be but watered,'  
James Connolly replied,  
'To make the green come out again  
And spread on every side.'  
And shake the blossom from the bud  
To be the garden's pride.'

'But where can we draw water.'  
Said Pearse to Connolly,  
'When all the wells are parched away?'  
'O plain as plain can be'  
There's nothing but our own red blood  
Can make a right Rose Tree.'

W.B. Yeats



\* As the Rees' depoliticisation programme gathers momentum we will be seeing letters in the imperialist and Gombeen press alleging that the men in British prisons to-day, sentenced for their part in the liberation struggle, are criminals. Already Theipval Barracks propagandists have tried to convince the Nationalist population that the Freedom Fighters of to-day should not be supported in their fight for political status and eventual amnesty. The same tactics were used by the Brookborough Government in the 40's and 50's but the strength of the people forced amnesties on both occasions. The photographs on this page show that the support of the Nationalist population is forthcoming in every era.



How many faces do you recognise in this picture? It was taken at a protest meeting at the bottom of Clonard Street.

## FLASHBACK



RUC personnel gather to take names of protesters outside Madden's Bar in Smithfield Square. Nothing has changed.



Here we see the Republican Colour Party enter Milltown Cemetery on an Easter Sunday long ago. Identifiable in the picture is Joe Cahill carrying the National Flag.



# IN THE VICEROY'S GARDEN

In 1916 the commander of the Thomas Hill fort, Playfair, was at the front in Fance fighting for the freedom of small nations. I don't think he was too worried about the fort on Easter Monday morning as a party of armed men quickly captured the soldiers manning the fort and set fire to the magazine stores. This was one occasion when the Phoenix did not rise from its ashes. As the men were leaving the fort they could hear the firing in the distance. Down the North Circular Road from the Park Gate to Cabra and Phibsboro Corner each outpost kept watch. In Glasnevin and Drumcondra British troops were kept busy watching for snipers, not knowing when and from a bullet might come.

In Fairview Sean Russell and his men set up a fort to hold off the British troops coming in from the North and Bull Wall. It is said that Russell in a few hours had built a fort with enough supplies to last a month. Later the fort was reluctantly abandoned, as Connolly ordered the men to fall back and assist the G.P.O. garrisons in the Metropole Hotel and Abbey Street outposts.

A young Fianna boy, James Healy aged 14 1/2 years is suddenly shot dead by a party of British soldiers at Phibsboro. James at the time was carrying dispatches from one outpost to another. Apart from the main garrisons almost every street or road had its Volunteer or Citizen Army or Fianna Eireann marksman.

On the steps of Liberty Hall Ernest Kavanagh falls dead. He was not a member of the Citizen Army or Volunteers, simply because he could not stand discipline. Nevertheless he was a true son of Ireland. His writings and cartoons had kept the spirit of the working class people alive during the years of 1913-1916.

Sheehy Skeffington, journalist and well known figure in Dublin, was murdered with two others, Thomas Dickson and Patrick McIntyre, in Portobello Barracks by British soldiers. The Simon Commission of Inquiry found that none of the three men was in any way connected with the Rising. In fact, Mc Intyre, was the editor of a paper "The Toiler" and "Searchlight" and he was an active opponent of the Larkinites. Dickson was also the editor of a paper "The Eyeopener."

Sheehy Skeffington had been trying to prevent the people from looting when he was arrested.

Captain J.C. Bowen-Colturst who ordered the men to be shot was tried by court martial, found guilty of murder and also found to be insane, and was ordered to be confined in a criminal lunatic asylum during His Majesty's pleasure.

The usual street cries of fresh watercress, sweet lavender and coal blocks had faded from the dublin Streets this Easter Week. Instead people were rushing and shouting.....

"Yes, I told ya' its the Shinners, the Shinners they're shooting up the Tommies. Mercer Street is full of blood. The dirty Shinners — grab that coat before she gets it.

Where did ye get the boots? In Talbot Street, Mrs., you will want to hurry as they will be all gone. Janey Mac how the Hell do ye expect me to get to Talbot Street with this load — Look I'll swap ye the boots for this coat . . . Be the hoke, no—I was nearly shot getting those.

SHOT? Are them dirty Shinners still shooting—Where's the Po-Liss—Never here when they're wanted—Get the Tommies up, the Tommies.

Another Court-Martial was held at Richmond Barracks but the Quartermaster-Sergeant was acquitted. Sergeant Robert Flood was charged with having murdered a civilian and a British officer in Guinness Brewery. Several other Courts-martial were held and at all of these British soldiers and officers were charged with having murdered British soldiers, sailors and civilians. Like Lord Cornwall's letter to the Duke of Portland in 1798—"You seem to be shooting and killing any man wearing a brown coat who is found within five miles of the city." The same tactics were used by the British in 1916—"shoot at anything that moves."



The sad sight of captured Volunteers being taken under heavy armed escort to various prisons. Sixteen of the leaders were executed after hastily convened military courts were set up. Hundreds more were deported to jails in England.



The two British barricades shown here were made from furniture taken from working class homes broken into by the occupation troops.



## The Fighting Countess



Countess Markievicz, Second-in-Command in Saint Stephen's Green, was a member of the Citizen's Army. She was sentenced to death on May 6, 1916 but the sentence was later commuted to penal servitude for life. She was taken to a convict prison in England but was released in the General Amnesty of 1917. She died in 1927.

## Dublin Invitation

A Chara,

The Chairman and Committee Members of the National Graves Association, Dublin, extend to you a cordial invitation to join with them in commemorating the Golden Jubilee of their foundation.

The Association was formed in 1926, with the aim of restoring where necessary and maintaining graves and memorials of those who died for the Republic as proclaimed in Easter Week 1916.

The Guiding Principle is that neither of the Partition Institutions of Stormont or Leinster House represent the true aspirations of those who died for Irish Freedom. In that period successive Committees have maintained such aims and objects, by the erection of memorials on the graves or places associated with Irish patriots. They have also undertaken the repatriation of Remains from graves in foreign prisons.

Particulars of ceremony will be announced. Bookings for Saturday afternoon tour and Commemoration Dinner should be made to : Seamus O'Fearcheallaigh, 24 Nephin Road, Dublin 7 — Phone No. 303410.

Mrs. Cait White, 15 Shanliss Drive, Dublin 9 — Phone No. 373975. before Sunday 17th April.

Is Mise,

Sean Fitzpatrick — Phone No. 500578.  
RUNAI.

**I will shell and burn every house in the city if they do not surrender** General Maxwell

# BEYOND CARLISLE BRIDGE

Connolly, Pearse, Clarke, Plunkett, MacDermott, the Irish Citizen Army, the Volunteers, Fianna Eireann and Cumann na mBan are already in their positions in the GPO, Henry Street, Abbey Street and Sackville Street. The Bridge seems deserted but yet from each corner building many eyes watch the street ways.

A large party of British Lancers came riding into the city. They were going to storm the rebels. As they reached the GPO a loud volley rang out. Several Lancers fell dead or wounded. The rest of the party were very glad they were on horseback because it made their retreat ever so much quicker. Some of them did not pull the reins until they were safe in the Phoenix Park.

The defeat of the mounted Lancers made the British think twice about attacking again. Instead they set up road blocks at the Rotunda, at Westmoreland Street, and Trinity College, and brought the British gunboat "The Helga" up to Butt Bridge.

The heavy artillery was quickly swung into action as the officers on board "The Helga" gave orders. "Liberty Hall—Fire—Reload—Fire" and on and on the orders rang out. The loopline railway bridge spoiled the Helga's view of the City. "Dismantle the loopline" came the orders. "B low it down, we must destroy the city and Liberty hall." A senior officer arrived and cancelled the order. "Leave the loopline and fire as best you can."

The shells came by the score, under the loopline, over the loopline and found their targets. The British snipers now using machine guns continued to rake the GPO and the streets with fire.

From the rooftop of Trinity College came more shells as the heavy guns pick out their targets. By Thursday morning Sackville Street is in ruins. The houses and shops which have escaped the shells are now on fire. The dense fog of black smoke gives the British soldiers a certain amount of cover as they move in closer to the GPO.

Troops had arrived from all areas in Ireland as well as from England. Butcher Maxwell is in command of the British forces which now number several thousand. But still Maxwell asked for more troops and more heavy guns. "I will shell and burn every house in the city if they do not surrender," he said. Maxwell wanted to impress his masters and he did not care if every man, woman and child were blown to bits.



The G.P.O. which was the base for the Dublin struggle, Connolly and Pearse were present with soldiers from the Irish Volunteers and the Irish Citizen's Army. Members of Cumann na mBan also played a heroic part in the fight.

Regiment after regiment poured into the city from the Curragh, Athlone, Templemore and still the rebels held out. At the GPO James Connolly lies wounded. Many Volunteers and Citizen Army men are dead at their posts. The Cumann na mBan girls and Winifred Carney (James Connolly's secretary) are attending to the wounded. From a mattress on the floor Connolly keeps giving orders.

Pearse sends out his message to the people of Dublin in which he states that "James Connolly although wounded is still the guiding brain of our resistance."

Winifred Carney is asked to take notes as James Connolly, Commandant General Dublin Division, dictates his message "to soldiers." He outlines the position in each area and pays tribute to all the gallant men, women, boys and girls who are helping to establish the Sovereign Irish Republic.

On Friday April 29 the British still shell the city. The fires are still blazing and the GPO is surrounded on all sides. Pearse asks the main body of Cumann na mBan to leave the wounded. The women and girls refuse. Pearse speaks to each one of them and asks her to leave. He also thanks them and tells them that they were an inspiration to the men and that they will have to leave shortly after.

Winifred Carney won't leave Connolly's side. Elizabeth O'Farrell and Julia

Grenan are asked to remain in the GPO. It was a sad sight as the brave members of Cumann na mBan left the GPO. They had been in the forefront of the Rising and had worked side by side helping, cooking, caring and attending the wounded and praying with the dying during the past

five days. Their comrades acted in like manner in the other garrisons and outposts in the city of Dublin. Never in the history of the world have there been braver women and girls than the women and girls of Easter Week, 1916.

All day Friday the British artillery roared. In Sackville Street Lower every building from No. 1, to No. 47 was completely destroyed. In Upper Sackville Street eight houses were in flames. Henry Street 53 houses, Lower Abbey Street 45 houses, Ear Street 32 houses, Eden Quay 14 houses and Liberty Hall, Princes Street 15 houses, Moore Street 11 houses and Sackville Place 6 houses. All of these were destroyed by British artillery.

The GPO was in ruins over the burning rooftops as it was going to be the last to stand. Below in the main hall among the debris Pearse was organising his men and women to evacuate Connolly had to be carried as he was badly wounded.

The first party, under the leadership of the O'Reilly, went into Henry Street. They were to try and reach Williams & Woods factory in Parnell Street and set up headquarters so that they could link up with Daly in the Four Courts. As The O'Rahilly and his men turn into Moore Street they come under heavy machine gun fire. O'Rahilly gives the order to take cover but as he reaches Moore Lane, he is shot dead. Other Volunteers were wounded and



Jacob's Factory in Bishop Street were the Volunteers held off Britishers who were coming to attack the G.P.O.

another, Patrick Shortis, falls dead by O'Rahilly's side.

For the last time Pearse inspects every position in the GPO. No one must be left behind. After a quiet thought and a quiet prayer the second and the last party leaves the GPO. They fight their way into Moore Street and set up Headquarters in No. 16. Other houses nearby are taken over by Volunteers and soon the walls joining the houses are torn down to enable quick contact to be made.

The British keep up the firing all during the night and into the early hours of the morning. General Lowe orders that heavy artillery from Trinity College is to be brought to Parnell Street. As the morning fades into noon a Council of War is held by Pearse, Connolly, Clarke, Macdermott in 16 Moore Street.

Willie Pearse is also there. He has fought all week side by side with his beloved brother. And so too is Plunkett. Joseph Mary Plunkett who was to have been married and who left a sick bed to take part in the Rising.

The Council made their decision. At 12 noon Sean MacDermott asked Elizabeth O'Farrell to make some white flags as Pearse wanted her to take a message to General Lowe.



The defeat of the mounted Lancers made the British think twice about attacking again. Instead they set up road blocks at the Rotunda, at Westmoreland Street, and Trinity College, and brought the British gunboat "The Helga" up to Butt Bridge.

# MELLOWS

Liam Mellows operated mainly on guerrilla tactics during Easter Week. First to Oranmore where they attacked and captured the barracks and six RIC prisoners. Then to Athenry where telephone wires were cut and the town held at bay. Back to Moyode Castle and on to Lime Park. Mellows sent out car loads of men to look for the British troops. Some of these cars carried out attacks at barracks in Kinvara, Gort and other places.

Liam Mellows, the revolutionary socialist who led the attacks.

When word reached the Galway Volunteers that Dublin had surrendered, Mellows wanted to fight it out with the British. The leaders discussed the situation and by a majority decided to disband.

County Inspector E.M. Clayton, RIC, gave evidence to the Royal Commission of inquiry. He told of the growth of the Sinn Fein organisation and their activities in Galway, Lord Hardinge Mr. Justice Shearman and Sir Mackenzie Chalmers, the gentlemen who constituted the Royal Commission, listen-

ed carefully in their heavily guarded room in the Shelbourne Hotel, Dublin.

"Yes, my lord," said the Inspector, "it all started in Craughwell in 1907. Secret societies followed and Branches were organised in Loughrea, Athenry and Kilrea. And then that fellow Mellows came from Dublin. He was

"Small shopkeepers; blacksmiths, publicans and farmers' sons."

"Then there were no literary types among them?"

"No my Lord, none."

"What class did they come from?"

"No my Lord, none."

"Then there were no literary types among them?"

"No my Lord."

The members of the Royal Commission were not new to this type of inquiry. Two of them were appointed because of their past records. Lord Hardinge, Baron of Penshurst, had been Viceroy in India for six years and had often dealt with many Indian rebels. Sir Mackenzie Chalmers, KCB, Under Secretary for State, had been on many Royal Commissions on the affairs of Malta. Mr. Justice Shearman seemed to have no qualifications at all and the only thing the papers could say for him was that "he is a jolly good sport and played rugby for Oxford."

a paid organiser and he enrolled every youth in every parish." Lord Hardinge asked if they had captured Mellows.

"No my Lord," was the reply, "He is still on the run. But we arrested 207 others most of whom they have been sent to England. Twelve have been tried by court martial."

At 12.45 p.m. a white flag hung from the window in Number 15 Moore Street. Elizabeth O'Farrell walked out of the doorway into the street carrying a small white flag. The British artillery ceased firing.

As Elizabeth was passing Moore Lane she saw The P'Rahilly's hat and revolver lying on the ground. At the barrier which cut off Parnell Street from Moore Street Elizabeth gave Pearse's verbal order for General Lowe.

"How many girls are down there?"

"Only three," Elizabeth replied.

"Take my advice and go down and bring them out."

The British officer was about

to send Elizabeth back to



# THE AFTERMATH

"No treaty which abnegates a nation's nationhood is binding on that nation; no legal contract can make a wrong thing binding, nor can a contract executed in our names but without our express or implied authority make a wrong thing binding on us or on our children."

Pearse.

the house when he suddenly changed his mind.

"Here, you better wait," he said, "I suppose this should be reported."

He sent Elizabeth with another British officer up to Parnell Street. They stopped outside 70-71.

The commanding officer came out of one of the houses. "The Irish Republican Army?" he exclaimed. "The Sinn Feiners you mean."

"The Irish Republican Army they call themselves and I think that is a very good name too," answered Elizabeth.

Officer: "Will Pearse have to be moved out on a stretcher?"

Elizabeth: "Pearse doesn't need a stretcher."

Officer: "Pearse does need a stretcher, madam."

Elizabeth: "Commandant Pearse doesn't need a stretcher."

The Officer addressed another officer and a number of soldiers: "Take that Red Cross off her and bring her over there and search her. She's a spy."

The Red Cross was quickly cut from her arm and from the front of her apron. She was then taken over to the doorway and half of the National Bank at the corner of Parnell Street and searched. Later she was brought to Tom Clarke's shop in Parnell Street which the British were using as a garrison.



Sean Heuston

Con Colbert and Sean Heuston were two of the original organisers of the revolutionary Republican youth movement, Na Fianna Eireann. Both were dedicated soldiers whose lives were devoted to the Republican ideal. Colbert was in charge of the Ardee Street outpost in the South Dublin Union garrison during the Rising. Following the surrender he was described by the Dublin Castle agents as "The most dangerous man in Ireland."

Sean Heuston manned the Mendicity Institute at Moira House where James Connolly had positioned him. Heuston's command were instructed to hold the post for 3 hours, in order to give the GPO garrison time to settle in. Heuston's men in fact held the position for three days.

The two friends were executed within an hour of each other on Friday, May 5, 1916. Their legacy, Na Fianna Eireann, live on.

Con Colbert



Na Fianna Eireann to-day play a major role in the liberation struggle. A glance at the Roll of Honour published in this issue will show that the young Fians have suffered in the course of the war. Their dedication and valour in the face of danger is remarkable and has been an inspiration to their revolutionary comrades in Oglach na hEireann. Ireland will remember the



## STAFF OFFICER SEAN McDERMOTT

# THE UNBROKEN SPIRIT

**Oration in honour of Staff Officer Sean McDermott, Long Kesh Camp, 7th April, '76**

Today we find ourselves once again having to undertake the saddest of all duties which befalls members of the Republican Movement. Yet another of our gallant comrades has fallen to the enemies of the people of Ireland. Staff Officer Sean McDermott, First Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglach na hEireann, was killed last Monday whilst engaged in a military operation designed to bleed the British establishment in Ireland.

Shortly we are to commemorate the Sixtieth Anniversary of the greatest single event in Irish history in modern times, and an event which is undoubtedly the high point of the Republican calendar, namely the Easter Rising of 1916, and the Proclamation of the Irish Republic.

As all of us standing here are only too well aware, on that fateful week almost sixty years ago, Padraig Pearse, James Connolly accompanied by many other brave and valiant Irishmen, gladly risked not only their liberty but their

very lives for the cause of Irish freedom and the establishment of an Irish Republic which would enshrine all that was just and fair.

The sudden and tragic death of our comrade Staff Officer Sean McDermott has shown to the world, and in particular the British Government and its army of occupation in the Six counties, that the spirit of the Irish race is unbroken, and the determination of the Irish people to achieve full liberty and equality is as strong as it was in 1916.

Sean McDermott is proof that neither imprisonment, internment, nor all that the British can throw at us in the

way of brutality, oppression and injustice are capable of deterring Republicans and the Republican Movement from the successful conclusion of this, the final campaign, in what is undeniably the longest struggle for national liberation ever fought by any nation anywhere on this earth.

To his sorrowing mother, family, relatives and friends, we, the Republican Prisoners of War, Fourth Battalion, Long Kesh, extend our sincerest sympathy on their loss. We pray that God in his mercy will comfort them.

Ar dheis De, i measc laochra Phoblacht na hEireann go raibh a gáin uasal.



SEAN McDERMOTT WAS A REVOLUTIONARY IN HIS EVERY THOUGHT AND ACTION. EVERY MILITARY ACTION WAS FOR POLITICAL EFFECT.

### Easter Greetings

In honour of all who died for Ireland 1916-1976, especially those who died in the North in the present campaign.

"Life springs from death And from the graves of our patriot Men and women spring living nations"

Inserted by a few friends in Llanelli, South Wales.

National Graves Association South Tyrone Edendork

Memorial on Easter Monday leaves 3pm from Stagger Inn Coalisland, Dungannon Road to Edendork Graveyard in honour of Dungannon Volunteers.

A Happy and Holy Easter to all my dear friends' in "A Company" Armagh Gaol. You are the greatest U.T.P. God Bless You All. From your friend, Mrs. Carson.

EASTER GREETINGS TO the 'Luton Three' — Gerry Mealey, Sean Campbell and Phil Sheridan and to all Irish Political prisoners at home and abroad — 'A Dia Saor Eire.' (From the McAdorey/McCusker Cumann, Luton, England.).

EASTER GREETINGS TO Eileen Hickey, Kate Mc Kinney, Dolours and Marion Price, Maire Drumm and all their comrades in Armagh Gaol. from Charles in America.

EASTER GREETINGS TO Patsy Hickey and Jim Mc Crystal, Cage 12, Long Kesh, from Charles in America.

The unveiling of the Kevin Barry Plaque on the "Reilly's Fort" Public House in Church Street will take place on Sunday 25th April at 12noon. The organisers hope that friends and supporters from throughout the 32 counties will attend.

### Castlewellan

Provisional Sinn Fein Parade in memory of Provisional dead in Co. Down. Assemble at 5 p.m. Lower Square route of parade Main Street, Circular Road to spot where Paul McGorrian was shot.

Inserted by McNulty Mc Gorrian Cumann, Castlewellan.

and in Newry

60th ANNIVERSARY OF ASTER RISING

Newry Commemoration Assemble 10.45 at the Mall Parade to Republican Plot, St. Mary's Church. Prominent Sinn Fein speaker, Band in attendance.

PRO, Newry and South Down Comhairle, Ceannairt Sinn Fein.

## Revolutionary Socialist

It is hard to find words adequate to describe the man, Sean McDermott. The vastness of his ability and the qualities of the man was so immense. Although young in years, he had maturity, knowledge and vision, far beyond his years. These were qualities which made his loss, all the more tragic. At this time when one need men of his calibre. He possessed one of the best political brains within the Republican Movement, the asset of which, we can ill do without. A reader and student of the classics, political history, philosophy, sociology and the arts, Sean could more than hold his own in any discussion or debate with any expert in most academic fields.

A near fluent Gaelic speaker, he had a special interest in drama, and the theatre. His personal nature was one of sincerity, integrity, sensitivity and humanity. Qualities rare indeed in this mercenary world in which we live. Few people pack as much into a life time as did he in his few young years. Humble and understanding, he was a shining example to every volunteer in the Republic Movement, and no task was too small or too big for Sean to tackle. Not for him, to seek position or influence, simply to serve was enough.

him complain. Little did we know then, that Sean was so soon to join two other martyred comrades from that same cage 22, Hugh Coney and Paul Fox.

Sean McDermott was a truest revolutionary, in the strict sense of the words. International, in this outlook he supported and understood every revolution taking place in the world today. Any place in the world where people were being oppressed and exploited whether it was by Western capitalist 'Democracies,' totalitarian régimes, Sean supported the just Revolution!

Nor would he allow himself to be diverted into the various schools of waffle, or excuse-makers. He knew what had to be done, and how to do it. A true soldier of Oglach na hEireann, dedicated to the cause of a Socialist Irish Republic, he knew that, by taking the fight to the Imperialists and hitting them were it hurts most mobilising the mass support of the people was the only way to that Socialist Republic. Cast in the same mould as Tone, Connolly and Mellowes, Davis, he knew as they did, that only complete political and Economic freedom would make us a nation again.

### by A Comrade

While on active service on the day that Loyalists bombed Kelly's bar the Brits fired on a car in which he was travelling and Sean was hit five times. On recovery and without hesitation he was back on active service.

\*

Not long after, he was arrested and flung into Long Kesh concentration camp. He was not yet 18 years of age at this time. He held the position of Cage T/0, and was an example of diligence and dedication to all in the cage. He suffered constant pain, due to the wounds he had received, which could only be relieved, by the taking of pain killing tablets. I remember on numerous occasions seeing Sean collapse from the pain, yet he never once complained. I can still see him charging through the clouds of gas at the Brits, during the rioting which followed the fire at Long Kesh and after when we were beaten and exhausted, how the Brits singled out for special "treatment." Sean, and those with similar wounds or those afflicted with other ailments. Still through all that, and the hardship which followed, I never once heard

His politics were those of the working-class people of Ireland. He loathed exploitation of workers everywhere, by rich bosses, no matter which label they come under, Catholic, Protestant, or Nationalist, especially those who hang on to the coat-tails of the revolution. "Carpet-baggers" he called them, which is an apt description. Yes, indeed Sean McDermott was a revolutionary in his every thought and action. Every military action was for political effect. Military action was useless, unless coupled with political action involving the mass of the people. Away with poorer cliques and petty personalities, and jealousies. The revolution comes first all the time. I can still hear his voice arguing, see his tall figure rushing here and there, hadn't a minute, as if he knew there would be so little time.

Staff Capt. Sean McDermott can rest in his grave, we will not let him down or his fellow comrades, only an Irish Socialist Republic will do. We've had one gonebeem Republic, we'll not have another. The deep sense of personnel loss felt by his Mother, Brother, and Sister, is shared by all his close friends and indeed by all who came in contact with him.