



REPUBLICAN NEWS

"VOICE OF REPUBLICAN ULSTER"

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In the same tradition BRIXTON LONG KESH MOUNTJOY CRUMLIN

INSET - Terence McSwiney, Lord Mayor of Cork, who died on hunger strike in Brixton Prison.

BELOW - The funeral of Thomas Ashe in Dublin City Hall, 1917.

BRENDAN McGRATH (the chairman of Comhairle Ceanntair at Andersonstown.

"Men can only last about seven days at the most on thirst strike. Some of the men in Long Kesh have been three days now without water, they cannot last much longer. We must do something now to help them. Telephone and write to the public figures so that they cannot say that they did not know that men are on hunger strike. Because mark my words, that is what some of them might say if the first corpse has to come out of Long Kesh - and it will come out if this strike goes on much longer.

Sinn Fein is a legitimate political force in Ireland whether Whitelaw likes it or not. The harassment of Sinn Fein members by the British Security Forces has in the past forced the organisation to go underground to some extent, thus giving the impression of being a group of faceless men and women. The time has come now, however, for Sinn Fein to really come out in the open. Sinn Fein will take its rightful place as a real political force in Irish affairs and all the bans in the Special Powers act will not prevent it.

MRS. MARY MOORE (speaking at the New Lodge Road meeting for North/East Comhairle Ceanntair).

"This meeting is organised by the Belfast North/East Sinn Fein Comhairle Ceanntair in conjunction with the Fergal O'Hanlon Cumann. The meeting has been called in support with the men on hunger and thirst strike, particularly the men in Cage 6, Long Kesh. Many of you already know just what these men have endured during the last 6 months. They have been assaulted and brutalised. These men have now resorted to the ultimate weapon for prisoners, namely hunger strike. Men have died before on hunger strike and you the people of the New Lodge Road and all over Belfast came out and showed great support when Billy McKee and the other men in Crumlin Road were on hunger strike before. As a result of your previous support, the men on strike at Crumlin got political status.

Again we ask you the people, because it is only you the people who can give us this support, so we ask you to support the men in Long Kesh. Write to the

Governor, ask him how the men are under his control who are on hunger strike. We know for certain that one of the hunger strikers is in hospital, we don't know how many more will be moved there today or tomorrow.

We all know that if loyalists were on hunger strike that the whole of the Shankill Road would be out showing their support for them. Craig would be out - where is Fitt? Paddy Devlin is now after 6 months trying to wrangle his way into Ballymurphy after being thrown out of St. James' None of these people have come down on the ground to give their support. You the ordinary people have given your support in the past, so we ask you once again show again your support. PLEASE DON'T LET THESE MEN DIE".

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TERENCE McSWINEY.

"I will be a free man, dead or alive within one month"



Truesdale: British Lackey- Petty & Mean

is Sunday October 22nd, as I write is in my prison cell. I am alone as effect on my comrades in Long Kesh who are on the 22nd day of air hunger strike.

That a terrible time these men have endure whilst in the hands of their lers. Those of us who were interned must react here when we hear mention of the name of the Governor that hell-hole. The name of the rogant lackey is Truesdale? We member how he did his best to it obstacles in the way of our demands for better conditions. We remember the arder in "C" wing utterly depressed the prospect of being transferred to Long Kesh to serve under the same uesdale. This is the man who had been powered by the British and Faulkner make life in Long Kesh Concentration Camp a living hell for almost 1,000 Irish men held without trial or charge. Thankfully, nobody died in that hole, but how any came near to it? How many will cry the scars to the grave of the inhumane treatment they received.

I remember the man who received the tragic news that his wife was shot and critically wounded. His comrades had heard the news on the radio and they broke the news as gently as they could to him. Truesdale "allowed" the heartbroken internee an interview 36 hours after the shooting. His opening remark was nearly his last, "well I believe you have a spot of bother at home." The internee had to be restrained from grabbing him by the throat.

This was typical of Truesdale's approach to men who had personal problems. He tried to separate father from son, and brother from brother in the camp. Anything that he could think up to upset the internees, seemed to give this racist pleasure - now we hear that he is at it again. It is not the first time he sent British troops and warders into the compounds to 'deal' with the men. The men who were interned in Cage 2 could tell you stories of brutality that would make your nerves scream in protest.

Let us get it right. Truesdale is to blame or the tension in Long Kesh. His reputation in Belfast prison was one of domineering sadist. He was chosen by Faulkner to be Governor of Long Kesh Concentration Camp because of these 'credentials'. He has repaid the trust placed in him to do a "good" job. Brig. Titson could never have picked better. Unless we want to see corpses leaving Long Kesh, we must ensure that Truesdale leaves it first - there is no other alternative. It is hard for me and perhaps wrong for me to suggest to the men held in Long Kesh, that Truesdale's removal should be one of their first demands. However, it seems to me on reflection that every spot of bother in the camp has centered around this rat.

The Republican prisoners in the Crumlin Road are seething at the treatment you are receiving. It is possible that we will be taking action very soon in solidarity with your demands. Like you, we suffer the frustrations of an unsympathetic system. Like you - we are determined to change it.

PAMPHLETS IN CLONARD

In a recent communique purportedly emanating from the Green Jackets HQ at Springfield Road RUC Station, J. R. G. N. Eveleigh, Lt.-Col. Commanding has made us a guarantee:

"I am always ready to talk to any responsible member of the community who has constructive suggestions for improving our relations with the public or our success in dealing with the violence."

This can be answered 'responsibly' in one way. The complete removal of this regiment from the Clonard Area will go to great lengths to improve relations. Policing is not required in this quiet, residential district. It never was in the past. The people always lived harmoniously and without fear until they were attacked in 1969. Attacks of the same nature are now on a virtual day to day basis, only now the ones who are our aggressors are the Royal Green Jackets. If Lt. Col. Eveleigh really believes that the way to gaining confidence is in the continual harassment of men, women and children in the area he and his soldiers are certainly going the right way about it. Can he excuse the behaviour of his soldiers as they patrol in their jeeps, cat-calling at women and children. Of course these things are always denied and no doubt the Irish are always telling lies. There are no 'gunmen' in the Clonard area. We have known for long enough that the British associate every Irishman as an IRA man, hence their heavy handed attitude in this district.

Lt.-Col. Eveleigh, the solution is yours, withdraw your troops and you need have nothing to fear from the peaceful residents of Clonard.

OVERSEAS

Help keep your relatives abroad informed of the situation by sending them copies of the Republican News

I held him in a last embrace

How silent it was - there in the deserted street - its darkened houses so still, so quiet - even the very wind seemed to have stopped blowing, it was uncanny.

It seemed as if every living thing had fled. How long had I been standing there? How long? Time itself seemed to have come to a standstill in the stillness of the deserted streets. Was it yesterday or today I had heard the noise of the turmoil the street battles; the hoarse voices of men; the gunfire; the screams; the moans; the cries of the women as they ran so terrified by the gunfire - I stood alone, standing over him as he lay on the ground, his face turned up to the sky, his eyes growing dim as he stared at me.

I cradled his head in my arms as I knelt beside him; whispering softly to him, "O my God I am very sorry ..."; his hand moved slowly towards me searching, and then it was clasped in mine in a firm grip, a strong grip that expressed its message clearer than any words from a human voice - "by the help of Thy Holy Grace I will never sin again".

I had finished my whispered prayer; his hand, limp now, slipping from mine, all its strength gone falling awkwardly to rest across his breast. His eyes were unmoving as they stared at the stars, not seeing them although they were there in all their bright glory in the sky.

I was alone now in the street of silence, yet my heart would not admit he was gone. How could he be? No, it was impossible he who was braver than anyone I had ever known. Had I not listened to his voice just a little while ago and him smiling at me as he spoke? No! it must be a dream! Yes, that's it, it is a dream - Suddenly I hear footsteps, moving towards me as I knelt alone in the street. I wait, my whole being tensed, making no effort to move, expecting to hear at any second the harsh screech of their guns. I could almost imagine the bullets tearing into my body sending me to join my friend who lay so still on the ground.

As his head lay still cradled in my arms, I heard a voice; 'Who is it? O my God, is he dead? Who is it?'. I turned startled at the sound. He stood over me. I knew him, a former comrade, now a member of the command staff of the NLF. His eyes searched mine as he spoke; he carried no gun; his face bore the mark of his grief - or was it his shame? I don't know.

He bent closer, peering at the face of my dead friend. He asked again, "Is he dead? Who is it?" Scarcely recognising my own voice, I answered, "yes he is dead, it is Charlie Hughes".

"In Cyprus Street, the murderer's volley came
A heart possessed of fire - I see his face
And startled, whisper Charlie Hughes' name
As I held him in a last embrace."

EDITORIAL NOTE: The author of this very moving piece is a well-known Republican at present in "A" Wing, Belfast Prison. He is a former member of the BELFAST REPUBLICAN PRESS CENTRE

DIALANN DEACAIR

SIOCHHAN GO RAIBH ANN

Fa an feachtas sinilchain ar shon na siochana faoi lan tseol anois agus dar le lucht a stiurtha go bhfuil se soileir go bhfuil an pobal ar shon ma siochana go hiomlan, beagnach. Nil me ag ra gur gadh doibh an saothar sin a chur orthu fein le rud comh so fheicthe a fhail amach. Ni bhionn i gcoinne na siochana ach amadan agus ni amadain iad an pobal mor. Mar sin an rud a ba mho achir ionadh orm, ni he an meid siniuchain a fuair siad ach an meid nar shinigh ar chor ar bith. Deich paroiisti a rinneadh go dti seo imbeal feirste agus is iad na paroiisti is mo lion daoine iad. Deanaim amach go bhfuil fa thuairm 120,000 caitleiceach sna paroiisti sin (de reir figiuri na heaglaise fein) agus go bhfuil dha dtrian acu sin os cionn se bliana deag d'aois. Chonnaic me fein oganaigh faoi she bliana deag ag sinu ach ma ghlacann muid, fein, leis an teora aoise de 16 bhi 80,000 idtideal a shiniu ach ni bhfuair lucht an fheachtais ach 40,000 siniuchan ar fad. Ni thiofadh a ra nach rabh fail acu a sinu a chur mar bhi an leabhar faoi do ghaothsa achon uair a dteachnaigh tu de dheir do theach a phobal.

"Vote early and often" an manadh a bhi ag lucht cruinnithe na mainmneacha is cosuil mar chonnaic me daoine ag cur a nainm ar an liosta tri seachtain indiadha a cheile sa teach a phobail a dteim fein air. Dearfainn fein nach abhar maoite ar bith e 40,000 ainm ina leitheid de chas agus go mba mor a b'fhu doibh iad fein a chosaint nuair a dubhairt siad gur shinigh 90% e agus iad o dhoras go doras. Ar an abhar sin thig linn misneach a bheith againn go foill go bhfiecheann an cuid is mo de'n phobal go mba amaideach an maise do dhuine ar bith "siochan" a eilimh agus an eagcoir agus an leatrom ann ar fad. Ta an dobal ibhfathacha le siochan ach nil siad ag iarraidh a bheith diolta faoi na luach.

BIG TOM AND THE HEADLINERS

Nach mor an run a bhi ann cerbh iad lucht riartha an fheachtais siniuchain seo. Ni bhfuair muid gaoth an fhocail fein go dti la an phreas agallainh agus b'shin romhainn iad "uncle Tom Cobbley an' all" Ina bpearsa mar a deaffa. Agus me ar mo bhealach isteach ar an aifreann cupla seachtain o shoin ce toim romhain ach sagart na paroiste, aoibh an ghair air, agus e ina sheasamh inaise le tabla beag a raibh leabhar na siniuchan air (ineadain an dli canona?). Shin se an peann ionns orm ach thug mesuil ghruama air agus d'fhiafair do ce a bhi imbun an fheachtais. "O, pobal iarthar Bheal Feirste" Deirse "bhal ni hiad" a deirimh fein" is as iarthar bheal feirste me fein, i gcead do do chota, agus nil mise ina bhun na nior chireadh imo chead e ach oiread". "Ni he ata me a maoieamh ach na sagairt as an t easbog Sciord me thart leis isteach sa tsuiiochan gan focal eile a ra agus e ag lasadh go bun na gcluas, ach ce acu le fearg na le h-aithmhealtas ni bheidh a fhios agam go deo, is doiche.

Thainig an la mor agus cerby iad na fir runda ach Tom Conaty agus an tath Murphy. Go direach nuair a shil muid deireadh a bheith cailte agus muid ar an bhlar fholamh "gan caraid gan com companach fe dhion mo thise" isteach leo sa bhearna baol, Tom agus dat, le muid a chur ar bhealach ar leasa. Is feidir a ra faoi'n athair Murphy go dtuigeann se ca bhfuil ar leas. Comh fada siar le 1969 nuair a chuaidh se igomhar le arm shasana leis na barracaidi a bhaint anuas is a deanamh ar leasa a bhi se. Nuair a chuaidh se ineadain toil daonflathach an pobail an trath ceanna ag ra gur glacadh le run daon guth go dtiofadh na barracaidi anuas an la dar gceann (dearg breag a bhi ann) ag deanamh ar leasa a bhi se. Nuair a, thaisteal ar iochtar bhothair na Bhfal O shraid go sraid a chur daoine a throid le cheile ag baint leasa as a bhona bhan.

"You'll listen to your priest won't you." Ag smhoineamh orain a bhi se. Nuair a dubhairt se ag cruinniú poibli i scoil maomh comhghaill gur cuma na "Cumhachta Speisealta" ann no as mar nar bhain siad ach le poblachtoirt ar scor ar bith. Is ag deanamh ar leasa a bhi se. Gan amhras caide a dheanaimis gan e? Agus maidir lena chomradai "Tom" is fad indiadha sin a thainig se isteach sa sceal. "Mother Ireland's rearing them yet" mar dubhairt a tea a dubhairt.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Redcliffe Gardens, South Kensington, LONDON.

Dear Sir, — I am a constant reader of the *Republican News* and a keen supporter. We are having difficult in regards getting notices of our dances and socials printed here in London. I have suggested to some of the members to send all advertisements of socials and dances in London and elsewhere in Britain to your paper and have them printed. That would be our way of getting through to our supporters. I would be delighted if you can publish this letter in your next issue so we may get this suggestion over to our Dance and Social Organisers.

I remain, yours sincerely,
JAMES H. de VERE

(Terence McSweeney, Cumann Sinn Fein)

THANK YOU

The Belfast Republican Press Centre was re-organised recently to meet the fresh onslaught of British black propaganda. The British Government in recent weeks, faced with the courage and determination of a risen people, are pouring in large sums of money into their publicity machine in order to confuse our people and to discredit the Republican Movement.

The REPUBLICAN NEWS now in existence for two years, is sold all over Ireland and in many places overseas. This has been achieved by a hard-working band of dedicated workers in the face of internment, widespread arrests, phone tapping, letter censorship, house raids, British Army, U.D.R. and R.U.C. road blocks. Our writers, distributors and sellers faced various risks and dangers to produce and bring to you this voice of Irish Republicanism. This was done in spite of Stormont's Special Powers Acts.

Our team had a particularly difficult period since internment commenced in August 1971. The Republican Movement therefore wishes to express thanks and appreciation for a job well done. The Republican News could not have survived without the co-operation of our printers and readers. To you also we say, thank you. With your continued support we will always strive to organise, educate and agitate in the cause of Irish national freedom as an authentic Irish Republican organ.

TRUE REPUBLICANISM

DAMN YOUR CONCESSIONS ENGLAND!

*Damn your concessions England,
Our eyes have seen the Dawn,
Our hopes are set not on English smiles,
But on Irish brain and brawn,
On her who stands unconquered
Without your Empire still,
And sings defiant fighting songs
By every stream and hill*

*Damn your concessions England,
We know your wiles too well,
Your smiles are for the traitor brood
Who've sacred things to sell;
You come to us in a friendly guise,
But on your outstretched hands
Are stains of blood - the gifts you bring
From homes in many lands.*

*We own them not, the slaves who crawl
Before your English queen,
Then wheel around, with brazen face,
and wave the flag of Green.
We turn to braver, truer hearts -
The rebel hearts you hate -
Who know the friendly smile you wear,
Behind your prison gate.*

*We've faith in Irish manhood still,
In Irish Wisdom too,
Though knaves and dastards toast your queen,
And bend the knee to you,
Young hearts and old are throbbing now
As in the days gone by,
With love for Ireland's holy cause,
The cause that shall not die.*

*We know your smile, we know your frown,
We know your wiles full well,
They all reflect the cursed craft
That comes to you from hell.
We ask no gift, not begger dole
That comes from blood stained hand
Damn your concessions, great and small,
We want our Irish land.*

DIFFICULTY

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Did the Republican movement split on fundamentals? In this time of confused thinking of what constitutes an Irish Republican it is necessary to examine the historical background of Irish Republicanism. The Standard Dictionary defines a Republican as one who believes in a Republican form of government of state, but does this answer the question posed above. We think the more correct definition is that Irish Republicanism is the symbol of Nationalism. Wolfe Tone was the first Irishman to give expression and meaningful reality, when he declared that an Independent Irish Republic was the National Objective. A Parliament was functioning in Ireland at that time known as Grattan's Parliament, and it is reasonable to assume that Tone and his associates when discussing ways and means by which they hoped would achieve their objectives, discussed parliamentary action, but it is clear from their actions in 1798 that they rejected constitutional means and decided that force would be resorted to and so they drilled and armed, and so was set the pattern for Irish Republicans. A democratic Independent Republic and the means of achieving such - physical force.

This pattern became the faith and dogman of Emmet, Thomas Russel, Jimmy Hope of 1803 accepted by the Young Irelanders in 1948. The Fenians of 1867 and the Invincibles. The Irish Republican Brotherhood. The Irish volunteers of 1913, the Irish Republican Army of 1916-1923 and subsequent periods 1940-1956, and the present time 1969-1972. Men and groups during these periods became discouraged and sought easier and what they thought were quicker means, as witness Dan O'Connell and the Repeal Movement of the early 18 hundreds, which was repudiated by Davis, Mitchell, Lalor etc. The Irish Parliamentary Party which was repudiated by the Irish People in 1918, and is but a memory. Michael Collins and his stepping-stone policy and Eamonn De Valera whose excuse for going into Leinster House was to break the Treaty from within. We in the Republican Movement know how well he succeeded. The Collins Free Staters murdered 77 Republicans in the period 1922-1923. DeValera and Fiann Fail also murdered Irish Republicans in 1940 period. So much for the Free Staters of that time. Then we had the departure of Sean McBride and his Clann Na Phoblacta, seeking a short cut in the manner of a Micky Collins or a DeValera. Did these men arrive at their goal, through their short cuts?

The answer is to be found in the suffering and daily oppression of Irish People in these 6 North Eastern Counties of Ireland in the last 50 years. And in the period 1969-1970 we had men who had become tired and discouraged in the struggle to bring about the freedom that Tone had formulated and which every Irish Republican had struggled and died for from 1798 until the present day. This latest group have, like Collins, DeValera McBride accepted Leinster House, Stormont and even Westminster. They have accepted the partition of their country and want a Bill of Rights which will guarantee them and the Irish people of the 6 counties equal British Citizenship. We see them today adding their voices to every reactionary group in Ireland, in calling for a cessation, at British terms, to the struggle which is being fought for the realisation of what was the declared aim of Tone, and of every Irish Republican in every generation. That is to break the connection with England, the never failing source of all our political and economic ills. This then is the answer to what is an Irish Republican. If the people who in the last decade who have abandoned Tone's dictum and methods in seeking a short cut, describe themselves as Republicans, then so can the Ernie Blythe's, DeValera's, McBrides, P. Devlin's etc. FOR WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE.

LIAM MAC'S PAGE OF News & VIEWS

THE SHORT STRAND

While all the rest of the cowboys and indians are yelling their heads off with advice to Whitelaw and his security forces on how to smash the resistance areas of the Creggan and Bogside, the chief of the tribe, Ian Paisley, has come out openly in the latest issue of his PROTESTANT TELEGRAPH with 9 reasons why the Short Strand must be invaded and this concludes with the advice on how best to do it (SEE PROTESTANT TELEGRAPH 3/6/72). Of course one can understand why Paisley is angry, he goaded his gangsters to attack this area in 1970, and got his fingers burnt and since then many other attempts have failed, but it is good for him to remind the people of the Short Strand area that his hatred for them is still alive.....Peace at any price supporters should take note.....

COURTAULDS

The recent strike by members of the LAW at the Courtaulds, Carnmoney factory over the alleged remarks of two Catholic workers about the sectarian posters and slogans inside the factory showed up the LAW, leadership for what it really is - a lot of gommeen men who when the crunch comes, as in this instance, because they have screamed sectarian hate yet don't know how to control their mobs when they carry through their teaching to his logical conclusion.

The workers at this factory having started a campaign to clear out all the Catholic workers found that their masters were embarrassed at their action and were pleaded with to get back to work, this they did but very angry at not getting any support. Official trade union movement should take control of this very bad situation and not allow management to negotiate with anyone outside the trade union movement. Let us see some action from Blease and Harkin and especially Norman Kennedy the new chairman of the ICTU and member of the Whitelaw Commission

PEACE HIS WAY

John Bull Cruise O'Brien must have been greatly shocked when, after his success with the leadership of the SDLP in convincing them that it was time to co-op with the establishment of the 6 counties once again, that when he instructed the Irish Labour Party councillors in Newry and Warrenpoint to call off their boycott of the local councils, they refused. "The reaction of the local branches whose members were in control of Newry and Warrenpoint Councils, was swift and uncompromising, they issued a statement that they would not return to the Councils until their original demands were met, and exception was taken on O'Brien setting himself up as the 'sile arbiter: on such a serious matter. Not only did they refuse, but they were ably supported by Tom Markey another councillor and a member of the NILP who declared that until the people gave him a mandate to go back he was with the other councillors. One laughable thing about all this was that "neither the general secretary of the Irish Labour Party in Dublin or O'Brien were aware that both councils had been abolished (SEE ARMAGH-DOWN OBSERVER 3rd June 1972).

PEACE OUR WAY

"Of course everyone wants peace. But peace to the middle-classes, and the businessmen, means the end of shooting etc. : to the internees and prisoners families, peace means the release of their men. There is no peace in these homes while British or Irish jails hold their men, charged or uncharged. The workers reluctance to agree to middle-class peace is based on the fact that the violence of unemployed and slums drew no horror-struck exclamations from these gentlemen, internees and political prisoners would be treated in the same callous manner in 'normal: times. The initiative for peace lies with the Westminster Tories. The chorus for peace should be directed at them, it would certainly receive less, much less, publicity if it were." (LETTER IN FORTNIGHT MAGAZINE 25/5/72)

DESPITE persistent rumours abroad Belfast is not completely demolished. There is still quite a lot of the old place left

(Ken Nixon, Newsletter 31/5/72)

COMPETITION

When Harold Wilson made his now 'famous' 15 point programme to settle the Irish question, the outcry from the NILP was led by a George Chambers from the Woodvale Branch who threatened that unless the executive disowned Wilson he would leave the Party. George, a school teacher by profession (Everton) is also spokesman on education for the party and this week he has been demanding from Whitelaw that he sets at rest the fears of the Protestant workers and "carry out a referendum so that the question of the link with Britain can be settled once and for all time"!

How foolish can this little man be, but one must understand the predicament of the NILP, as another little Unionist party-Alliance Party - they are screaming at the top of their hysterical voices for the same action by Whitelaw - they are both fighting for support from the unionist workers and they are finding competition between them is getting fierce, so much so that one expects some of these days they will be having some gimmick such as Green Shield Stamps for all those who can prove they voted for that individual party.

BOAL DEFENDER PROSCUITOR

The great defender of the people's rights and privileges, Desmond Boal, who acts as crown prosecutor oras defence council, as the whim takes him, or should I say when he finds that it is more profitable to his bank account and political prejudices. In the REPUBLICAN NEWS we quoted the case when the bold Desmond took great pleasure in prosecuting a little girl of 17 and was proud of being able to convict her and send her to prison for two years, her crime - in his eyes - she was a Republican. This past week the great democrat was in action on two occasions and we are sure he was proud that again he won both his cases - but on these occasions he was defending the right of the RUC and the security forces to brutally treat their victims once they had got them inside the law and order compounds. You remember the day Harry Thornton was murdered - the Saturday before internment - the driver of the car, Arthur Thomas Murphy was arrested and brought into the Springfield Road Barracks. Sergeant McGowan and Constable Proctor of the RUC immediately started to beat up Murphy who later had to have hospital treatment after he had been released when no charge was brought against him. The court case was the result of Murphy taking an action against the police. The Army Officer gave evidence for the defence that he had watched the police beating up Murphy. Boal knowing he had case, went on the offensive and what do you know the police in turn blamed the troops for the beating up. Anyway, before the day was out the judge and the jury did not even know what day it was, the police then got discharged for lack of evidence.

The other case with Boal defending was a clear cut case of two soldiers beating up a chap who was arrested for merely disturbing the peace, but the troops thinking he was a Republican, gave him such a beating and kicking that he lost an eye, again Desmond with his great pride and respect for the law, went on the offensive and admitted the soldiers took the law for a Republican - in his eyes that political outlook is not covered by the law. Anyway it was an unknown third soldier who had done most of the kicking. RESULT of the case, the soldiers were only fined £25. That my friends is the one and only Desmond Boal defender of the people's rights and privileges.

HERE & THERE

"THE PROVISIONALS have been talking to Paisley and Roy Bradford, and they in turn have been talking to Robin Baillie and Basil McIvor. 'Our dilemma,' as Ian Paisley succinctly put it, 'is how to sell the idea to Protestant people' of a hazy outline of some form of a long term settlement in the context of all the 32 Counties of Ireland."

(Insight, Sunday Times 4/6/72)

ÉIRE NUA

THE
DEMOCRATIC
SOCIALIST
REPUBLIC
TO BE



of years struggled for freedom. It was no coincidence that it was during the great advance of Conradh na Gaeilge in the present century that another attempt to win national freedom began in 1916.

Not only were the leaders of 1916 all supporters of the language movement, and several of them actively involved in it, but the first Dail Eireann (1919-1921) adopted as national policy the restoration of the language. The first meeting was conducted entirely in Irish apart from the reading in French and English of the Declaration of Independence and the Message to the Free Nations of the World, and the reading in English of the Democratic Programme.

But as in so many other aspects, the fine principles of the four glorious years were abandoned by many leaders, and from the betrayal has come disillusionment. The language itself is indeed the victim of the great betrayal. With good reason in many cases a lot of people look on the whole restoration effort as hypocritical. The national ideal of "Saor agus Gaelach" still hold good. We have been living a lie since 1922. While Irish is taught in our schools, no coherent comprehensive plan has ever been drawn up to give proper meaning to the work of the schools. The Gaeltacht areas, which were already declining seriously prior to 1921 have been allowed shrink disastrously and many of those still remaining in these areas see little use in continuing to use the language.

Only Sinn Fein can restore the spirit, the enthusiasm, the idealism and give the leadership which existed prior to 1921. The politicians of Leinster House, pre-occupied with preserving their positions, can only lead the nation to the final stage of national apostasy.

Sinn Fein will evolve a plan for the restoration of Irish which will have as an immediate aim the development of the use of the Irish language as a medium of communication to the minimum degree required for creating a cultural milieu which will make possible the national and organic national development essential for the moral, social, spiritual and material needs of the Irish people.

It will be a progressive step by step plan and will involve all our people in the political, social, religious, economic and cultural sectors of the nation. Such a plan cannot be put into practice completely in isolation — just as the language itself cannot be considered in isolation. All aspects of the life of the state and nation must be involved and taken into consideration. We visualise the following headings as being essential parts of the restoration plan:—

1. A vast continuous programme of education to explain the philosophy behind the restoration effort will be undertaken, and all the media of communication will be utilised. This programme will be based on the most modern research findings in sociology, socio-linguistics and anthropology, and will be so framed that it will appeal to all sectors of the people. It will include an authoritative study of the history and significance of the language in its proper historical context. Suitable adaptations of the programme will be prepared and used in all educational institutions.

2. For the restoration of the Irish language to its proper place it must not only have the full legal backing and leadership of the State, but a social atmosphere must be created so that people will be able to accept Irish as a natural aspect of their lives. It will not be enough that Irish has an honorary or a nominal legal status — leadership and practical direction must be given. Therefore, one of the first targets will be the transaction of all Central and Local Government business through Irish from Cabinet level down. This may not be practicable immediately after political independence is achieved, but time-limits with targets will be set. These will be set within two stages — firstly, all internal

work and correspondence through Irish; secondly, all communications with the public to be through Irish. This includes the work of all government, semi-government and state-sponsored bodies.

3. The development and expansion, economically, socially and culturally of the Gaeltacht areas will be given priority. A Bord na Gaeltachta, government-sponsored but independent of the Civil Service, containing as well as Government nominees, democratically elected representatives from all Gaeltacht areas, will be set up as the principle authority for these regions. This authority will be completely autonomous and will control regional institutions, supervise and direct all services, including local government, industrial, publishing, radio, and television, etc., for the Gaeltacht areas. Irish only will be recognised as an official language in the Gaeltacht areas as they exist at present. It will also be the policy and aim of Bord na Gaeltachta to develop new Gaeltacht areas along the lines of Rath Cairn with proper facilities such as piped water.

4. The national radio and television service will be reorganised to play its full and proper part in national rehabilitation. A national film industry will also be set up.

5. The Irish versions only of all place names will be used officially, and signposts will be altered accordingly. Steps will be taken to ensure that roadmaps with the correct placenames are provided.

6. The publication of all forms of Irish literature and reading matter catering for all tastes will be actively assisted. Special attention will be paid to the needs of educational institutions in the matter of text books and all other teaching aids required.

7. A practical and comprehensive plan will be evolved in consultation with the various interests for the development of the use of Irish in the commercial life of the nation, and all assistance necessary, including adequate finance, will be given. Initially, incentives will be devised to encourage the use of Irish. These might include cheaper postal rates for letters addressed in Irish and increased benefits such as children's allowances for those whose home language is Irish.

8. Irish will be an obligatory subject and the first language in all schools. Eventually, all subjects (except other living languages) will be taught through Irish in all schools. In the early stages steps will be taken to ensure that all teachers, especially trainee-teachers at all levels, acquire competency in the use of Irish and that they are properly trained for teaching through Irish. It is recognised that in implementing this the rate of progress will be slower in the Six Counties than in the rest of the country.

9. A Minister for National Rehabilitation will be appointed and with the assistance of a fully equipped and qualified Department endowed with the necessary powers, will direct and co-ordinate the complete restoration efforts. It will be his duty to set out targets, timetables, etc., for the restoration plan and ensure that all sectors of the nation are playing their part.

10. An Irish Academy will be established by the State. Its functions will include the publication of all text books, treatises and other matter required; it will be the deciding body on all questions relating to Irish grammar, spelling, phonetics, coining and standardisation of words and terms etc.

The Folklore Commission and the Arts Council will be transferred to the Academy as subsidiary bodies and their powers and functions extended and developed. The Academy will also undertake to establish machinery for the study, development and teaching of Irish music, both classical and traditional.

It is envisaged that the Academy undertake expanded promotion and cultivation of art in all its forms, including cultural and exhibition centres in Dublin, Cork, Galway, Derry and Belfast. These centres would include workshops, studios, rooms and halls for the development of art, drama, music, poetry, etc., and would be constantly open to the public.

Under the establishment of a National 32-County Parliament with effective jurisdiction over all Ireland, Sinn Fein will encourage the use of Irish among its members, sympathisers and the public at large and will promote other forms of Irish culture. Sinn Fein will also co-operate with all other organisations sincerely working towards the restoration of the Irish language and the development of the Gaeltacht.



ANGLIANS ON RAMPAGE IN THE LOWER SINN FEIN ARD FHEIS Man of principle

The above picture shows the last remains of a house in Leeson St. It was demolished by the British Army in a 6 wheeler Saladin armoured tank.

On Friday evening last the soldiers came into the area and after a brief tour about they rammed the house, bringing down part of the masonry. On Monday evening they came in and rammed into it once again. They made two or three tours of the area before finally putting their finishing touches to this house. The house next door, in which someone lived is now crumbling in and this family has had to leave.

One can clearly see that the British Army have nothing to offer us except murder of our people and destruction of their homes.

In Abercorn Street North Tuesday evening soldiers in a Saracen stopped in the street. They lifted three small children and held them in front of them using them as a shield in case they were attacked by the local unit. The spokesmen at Lisburn are very apt to accuse the IRA of using children as a shield, but we presume it does not matter if the British do it!

The Ard Fheis will be held on Saturday and Sunday, the 28th and 29th October, in Liberty Hall in Dublin. It is of the greatest importance that every cumann and comhairle ceannair in Ulster be fully represented at this historic gathering at this critical period in the struggle for Irish freedom.

It is our sincere hope that the delegates from Ulster will speak effectively and fearlessly during the Ard Fheis and that we get the leaders and the policies that we deserve. Never at an time since 1918 was there the same vital need for proper leadership and policies as now.

Many Republicans in Ireland and abroad look to this Ard Fheis with hope. Will their hopes be in vain? It is up to you, the delegates.

The staff of REPUBLICAN NEWS send greetings to the delegates assembled at the Ard Fheis. It is our earnest hope that your deliberations will be blessed with every success.

Quotation

PATRICK PEARSE:
"Thou shalt not" is half the law of Ireland, and the other half is "Thou must."

We learned with deep regret during the week of the death of Joe McGurk a life-long Republican of steadfast principles.

He suffered prison confinement on many occasions for his Republican beliefs and sacrificed his career as a

teacher rather than take a declaration of allegiance to the British crown. He was a fluent gaelic speaker and was Hon. President of the Belfast Branch of the National Graves Association. We tender our sincere sympathy to his wife and son. Go ndeanadh dia trocaire ar a anam.

Perverted Humour

On Friday last as four young members of OGLAIGH na h-EIREANN were being sentenced by a judge to a total of 38 years in prison, one 'female' RUC member thought the whole proceedings very amusing, laughing during one young man's speech from the dock.

However, as Justice Gibson, was passing this most vicious sentence the girlfriend of one of the young men burst into tears. This same 'female' RUC member attempted to eject her from the court. Several women in the court told her and judge where to go and thwarted any attempts to manhandle this young girl.

This policewoman's activities were despicable and her sense of humour could be called not

This policewoman's activities were despicable and her sense of humour could only be described as perverted.

Press Release

We have been asked to publish the following operations carried out by the 3rd Battalion, Oglagh na h-Eireann.

19th October, 1972

ASU fired 6 shots at a foot patrol on the New Lodge Road. One hit claimed, ASU sustained no casualties.

20th October, 1972

Three shots fired at Army Post at Browns Square, 2 hits claimed.

22nd October, 1972

Three hits claimed during rioting in the New Lodge Road area.

22nd October, 1972

Ten shots fired into Land Rover on the Antrim Road, 4 hits claimed.

23rd October, 1972

Twelve shots fired at two open land rovers in Greencastle. One hit claimed.

24th October, 1972

ASU fired on foot patrol in New Lodge Road, one hit claimed.

SUPPORT THE HUNGER STRIKE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

MRS. MARY McGUIGAN

"It is very hard on us here today thinking of our lads in Long Kesh dying, dying on hunger strike. All they are demanding is political status. They should not have to demand it, it should be granted to them. God knows they have suffered enough. We know that the people of the New Lodge Road have suffered just like the people of Ardoyne and the Falls. It is up to us to let the British authorities see that we are behind the men on strike. God help them, there is not much they can do only lie and die and it is up to us to see that they are supported from the outside. Keep ringing up Long Kesh to enquire about them, put insertions in the papers in support of them".

MRS. SARAH MURPHY (press officer - Sean McCaughey/Jim Saunders Sinn Fein Cumann and former Vice-Chairman of the Republican Labour Party)

"Someone once said that we get the government that we deserve and if ever a country deserved a government that it got, we deserved it, because for over 50 years we lay down, we were slaves to the unionist regime that passed itself off as a government.

"We did nothing, but now that we have arisen, I want to ask you a question - do we go on or do we lie down again as slaves? If we stop now, we will get a reincarnated Stormont, perhaps under another name, but it will be the same thing. We should send out the message from this meeting today - we won't have another Stormont of any kind; we want a new free Ireland.

"The men on hunger strike in Long Kesh will get, I hope, this message from us. Their hunger and thirst for justice is no greater than our hunger for freedom. Together we will fight, we will go on to Freedom for we must remember that Freedom is a God-given right. It is something we don't have to get permission for from Mr. Whitelaw. Every man, woman and child is born free and equal in the sight of God. I say to Whitelaw and Co. - we will not be slaves any longer in our own country, it is our right to be free and we shall assert that right. We all know what this struggle has cost us. If we stop now, all the suffering, all the blood the tears and sweat would have been

in vain. It would all have been for nothing.

"Even if all the men in Long Kesh got out tomorrow, the struggle for freedom must still go on. No longer is this a question of strength the British Army came here with their tanks, they thought they could overpower us but they found out that they cannot. You cannot bend a people that won't be bent. We are now at the point where the test is not one of our strength, but our endurance. Endurance is what will win - and we will endure.

"I would like to see our representatives at Westminster resigning their seats. I want to see them joining us in the struggle. I wonder if they really represent the people at Westminster? We have long ago taken away our representation at Westminster. They no longer can claim to represent us at Westminster. I question the motives of these MPs. You know it is quite safe to appear at Westminster. They say that they are there to represent us but we know only too well that they are there merely for their own personal political advantage. The represent no-one simply but themselves.

"I hope if and when the local elections are held that the people will tell any would-be candidate who would even dare to think of standing, what, they the people, think of them. We all know what the problem is in Ireland. We all know what the real evil is here. Until the British connection is broken and we have a free united country, there will never be any real peace here. The first thing that we must do is to remove this evil thing called partition."

LIAM O'MUIRI (Sinn Fein Senior Publicity Officer for Belfast)

"I am proud and honoured to have been asked to speak here today. There are men in this audience I know them personally, who are much more fitted to do so. Perhaps the reason why I have been asked to speak is because I have been in Long Kesh with some of the men now on hunger strike. I have been on hunger strike and I know the pain and the suffering that goes with hunger strike.

There are men from this area who are in "A" wing in Crumlin Road. I can think of at least three. The support for the hunger strikes from the men in "A" wing is much better than the support I see at this meeting. To those people sitting at their fire-sides I say to you who can hear me, remember the men who gave their lives, the men who gave years of their lives and who are still prepared to suffer that you might be free.

"I would remind those listening to me today that each and everyone of the speakers on this platform is a

member of Sinn Fein. We were told a few weeks ago by a British spokesman that Sinn Fein is an illegal organisation. So be it. Sinn Fein is an "illegal" organisation, we admit membership of an "illegal" organisation - as a woman in the audience has just said, if we wore masks and combat a combat jackets, it is likely that then we could walk openly in the streets with Whitelaw's blessing."

MISS PHYLIS O'NEILL (treasurer - Belfast Co-ordinating Committee.

"I don't want to keep you any longer than is necessary. By your very presence here today, you show your support for the men who are on hunger strike. You show that you are concerned about the men in Long Kesh. These men are now using the last weapon available to them. Billy McKee almost had to die in 1972 before the people got up and demanded that he and his comrades should have political status. The internees have now joined the remand prisoners. Do we now have to wait until some men die before the people get off their knees and demand justice for them. The prisoners have asked for support, solidarity and support from outside. We are determined that their requests be granted. Mass protests must be held all over the country. The news media must be bombarded. People of the New Lodge Road, I am sorry that your support has not been up to much today. It is a bad day and I know that you did not have too much notice. I hope the next time we have this type of demonstrations that there will be more support. In the meantime,

let us have your support on the ground. Put insertions in the paper. Let us have phone calls enquiring about these men - let us have the letters - let us have world-wide publicity. Write to your relatives in the USA, in Scotland, in Australia; ask them to spread word about what is happening here. Let the world know that these men are prepared to die simply because they want to be treated as human beings. The British are not prepared to treat them as human beings.

LARNE

It is interesting to note that one of the petrol-bombers who attacked the homes of RUC men in this area was a member of the UDR. More evidence of the bigoted nature of this evil regiment.

LARGE ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING IN THE LOWER FALLS

This meeting was held under the auspices of the S. Burns/Charles Hughes S.F. Cumann.

The principal speakers were Eamon Caughey and Maura Drumm. Attention was drawn to the fact that the so-called authorities had gone to considerable lengths to cover up the fact of the hunger strike in Long Kesh and that men had been refusing food, some refusing water. Mrs. Drumm spoke of the great dangers, if our people did not act immediately and with strength that we may have in our midst another Terence McSwiney, or another Sean McCaughey. Enough coffins had gone up that Falls Road to fill a lifetime, young men who would never know a free land, dying before their dream was realised. We do not want another coffin to travel that road, and not one from Long Kesh, not another like brave Sean McCaughey. She pointed out that we need not look for help from politicians, or to the Free State, for they were denying the same rights for our people down there. She called on all the people to act now, phone the camp, telegram people of importance, over-ride British propaganda about the hunger strike by telling the truth. "If one man dies in that camp it will be our fault, the fault of those who did not do enough to highlight the deteriorating condition of the men on hunger strike in Long Kesh."

ULSTER DEFENCE REGIMENT PRANKS!

Armagh: Once again the bigoted ranks of the UDR have shown their fangs in an attempt to disrupt a march of 300 children and a handful of adults. It has long been known that the ranks of the UDR never were non-sectarian, being part and parcel of the ill-famed B-Specials. Other events in the Six Counties in which UDR members have been involved have shown that this defence regiment is nothing more than a re-named, re-uniformed twin of the Specials!