



REPUBLICAN NEWS

"VOICE OF REPUBLICAN ULSTER"
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invitation to the

U.D.A.

We, as Republicans, would like to clarify our position in relation to the present senseless slaughter, which is at present taking place, involving the two sections of the working class community in the Six Counties. We would also, at this point, ask you, to take stock of the role, that you, as a supposedly working class organisation, are playing, in what has up to now, been nothing less than a working class revolution against the rich ruling class of Imperialists which immunate from both Bonn and Britain.

We have always made our position clear regarding members of the Crown Forces. Also, the action we have taken, has always been directed at purely economic and military targets, in the profound belief that, in so doing we would be striking at the very heart of capitalism, and their tools. It never mattered whether it was R.U.C., B.A. or U.D.R. Once they dooned those uniforms they became symbols of repression and capitalism, and as such were agents of these, and so, enemies of the working class. The fact that they were Catholic, Protestant or Hindu didn't matter, we never allowed religion or personalities to deter us from the task that lay in front of us.

We, have never been under any illusions, about who our enemies were. We have had 50 years under these same AGENTS of capitalism i.e. the rich ruling Unionist class, while you were being duped into thinking, that you, held a privileged position in our society. Every time, a bomb blew up, an Hotel, a large City centre shop, or even a public house, we were striking at imperial investments either directly or indirectly. Whether it affected, rates paid to Stormont, insurance paid out to English Companies, or mortgages paid out to English companies (how many Irish Insurance companies do you know?) it was a direct blow against British Imperialism.

We found, that as exploitation and imperialism, has been allowed to mature, it can increasingly rely on internal social classes, and groupings in the oppressed country to do its dirty work. Look for example at the exploitation of Ireland. There is not a single English soldier

in the South of Ireland and yet it has never been more under English control. Jack Lurch is prepared to enact all the repression the English want. He will sell all the natural concessions and resources he can manage to sell. Every new industry that he supposedly "Wins" is, in actual fact, bleeding the country, and exporting much needed money, and wasting valuable labour time to make other capitalist countries rich. This is done because imperialism not only destroys classes, it creates them.

Much of this type of society both North and South, is ruled by locals, who made their money, out of helping British traders to exploit their own country, and by officer classes who trained at Sandhurst, and by lawyers and administrators who went to English Universities. (Such as, the "Chichester-Clarke's", the "Brooke's" and "O'Neill's" etc.) It is just like any other class system. It works by letting a few up the ladder. It ensures that people

will think it is possible to get up the ladder if only they are clever enough, and it also ensures that those at the top of the ladder work very hard to keep everyone else down. This is called divide and rule, which is, a National sport of the English.

Here, in the North of course the case is different. You, in the protestant community, were installed as one of these garrisons of British imperialism, and as such, are no longer needed by the British. However you still have the power to oppose the British. Once this stage had been reached, where interned groups would do the dirty work, it is no longer necessary for the oppressing country to have overt political control. They can grant a form of independence to those weaker countries, secure in the knowledge that it still controls the wealth and therefore, the politics concerned. This is called neo-colonialism.

Here then, is the position in which you find yourself to-day. A position in which your organisation is being used by the imperialists, to direct attention, men and material, indeed a whole movement away from our true enemy, namely British Imperialism. It would be much more advantageous, for your people, if you would direct your energies and organisation into working for your own people. You,

have the nucleus of a group which would be better employed by working within your own community, establishing such ventures as Credit Unions, Co-operatives, and the ideal of self help. Thus bringing the power back to the people, and cutting out all these agents of capitalism. Once this basic socialist step has been taken, it will only be a matter of time, before you will want to know, and do more for your own people.

You will eventually come to realise, as we have realised long ago, that the only way to overthrow this corrupt system is by, revolution carried out by all our people. The central tasks of any revolution are No. 1 - to clearly identify the enemy (which is British Imperialism and not your Catholic neighbours). No. 2 - To clearly identify the contradictions in his position. (i.e. how they use people in your position etc.). No. 3 - To design a strategy that will hit those weak spots. (Strike their very hearts, economical and politically). No. 4 - To help build and join a movement capable of carrying out that strategy. (such as the movement that the Provo's have built). only with more of a representations from the Protestant working class.

So therefore, we call on you to abandon the present senseless position, in which you are being used
(Continued on Page Seven)

NEWS FROM DERRY

New Dungiven Cumann

At the inauguration of the 'John Mitchell' Sinn Fein Cumann, on Sunday February 11th 1973, at Dungiven Co. Derry, two thousand republicans from Derry, Tyrone and Belfast marched impressively through the town, headed by a colour party carrying the national flag.

A rally, following the March, was addressed by Mrs. Maura Drumm, Acting President of Sinn Fein, Messrs Barney McFadden, Sean Carr, Aidian Corrigan, Kevin Agnew and Maurice Conlan:

CEILI

The Padraig Pearse Cumann, Bogside, are confident of a large attendance at their Ceili in the Stardust Ballroom on March 15th 1973. Music will be provided by Jim Lynn's International Broadcasting Green Cross Ceile Band.

The Pearse Cumann, which is the oldest in Derry, recently held a Bazaar which realised 442 pounds. 400 pounds of this was shared by an Cumann Cabrach, the Derry Comhairle Ceantair and the Republican Movement in general.

A new banner and a set of uniforms has added to the prestige of the Cumann and have drawn general approval from the Derry public in recent parades:

Going Well

A healthy view of Republicanism in Derry City can be seen in the sale of Republican papers. Supplies of 'The Volunteer', 'An Phoblacht' and 'Republican News' are exhausted within hours of reaching the Cumann in the area. The writer had to beat a hasty retreat from a Derry lounge on Friday night after he found that having sold his quota of 'The Volunteer', he had none left for 130 would be customers.

A Warning

A Youth, who ignored previous warnings, was "shot in the leg" in the Bogside on Thursday for committing petty crimes in the free Derry area, thus causing hardship to the people.

The Republican Movement will not allow this sort of conduct and will punish wrong doers. Even though the British Authorities appear to have given a clear mandate to the British Army in Derry, to rob and thief as much as they like, in as much as, that in the past two months twenty four B.A. members have appeared in Derry Courts on charges ranging from theft to burglary and one of carnal knowledge of a 13 year old girl.

In each case, fines and jail sentences have been squashed on appeal whilst fourteen year old boys are "put away" for throwing stones.

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Anniversary

KAVANAGH

In proud and loving memory of our dearly beloved son, ALBERT, (R.I.P.) murdered by the R.U.C. on the 4th March, 1972. Always remembered by his loving parents, brothers and sisters.
25 Cavendish Street, Belfast.

LETTER FROM AN ARDOYNE MAN

Sir,

I thought it may be of some interest to relate on how some members of the R.A.F. spent their spare time in Aden. On being posted out there in 1965 it took a few weeks to settle in. It was the same old routine day in day out, i.e. go to your section and do your normal days duties, if not on guard duties then down to the beach for a swim and that night round to the N.A.A.F.I. for a drink to help pass the time on.

Time being heavy on one in Aden as we were the ones who had to live "behind the wire". I noticed after a month in Aden that a number of members of the R.A.F. were doing as I thought "extra guard duties". On making enquiries about these people I was told that they had volunteered for "special duties". It didn't take me long to find out what these "special duties" were. They were "special search squads" formed. I was told to assist in taking the pressure off the Army to enable them to get on with the main job of dealing with these Wogs.

How did these "special search squads" come about. Well a bright little Plt. Officer looking for quick promotion and having plenty of time on his hands thought up the idea in the first place. I presume after talking it over with his Superior officers he was given the "go ahead" to put his idea into action.

Quite casually he walked into his section and over a cup of "Char of a Wad" he put his ideas to his men and asked for

"special search squads of Steamer Point Aden". The idea was not new as the B.A. has always had its S.A.S. in one form or another.

Because I had shown some interest in these special squads, I was asked if I wanted to volunteer and I said that because of the long hours of duty and the number of 24 hour guards I had to do, I considered I was doing more than my share of duties. I had no intention of making these peoples lives more miserable than it was.

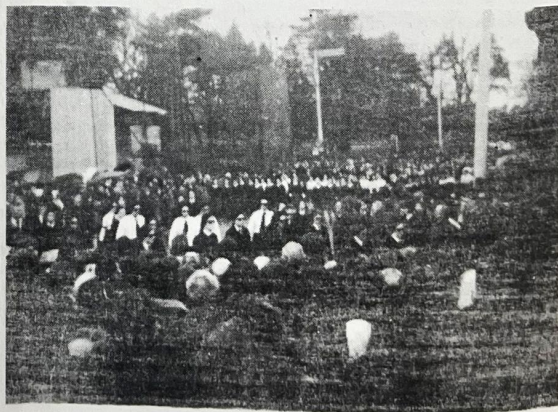
In my section were two Arabs who we called Titch and Ike, with whom I became very friendly with and on one occasion some of these "special squads" came into my section Titch and Ike pointed them out to me saying "Mush Tamam" meaning "No Good". I asked why and was told that their homes had been searched by them and that they had been treated very badly by them.

These animals enjoyed their "duty work" and they did not mix with other members in the billet, they kept to themselves and talked among themselves and were ignored by the rest of the billet.

Nothing was ever put on paper about them. Their names never appeared on Routine Orders, D.R.O's. or S.R.O's. Volunteers were recruited by word of mouth and although everyone knew of their existence you were not encouraged to talk of them. The Arabs said to me, "They act like animals so we keep them behind their own wire like the wild animals they are". I was able to tell him that the "Irish" were the first to make Monkeys out of the English as they forced them into Cage Cars in 1916.

Gearoid Dealferride, Eireann.

Left: Our picture was taken immediately after gunmen fired without warning into the funeral cortege. Mourners quickly reformed ranks after wounded victims had received first aid. Right: The funeral of Volunteers Jim McCann, Tony Campbell and Jim Sloan. (Too late for publication last week).



Volunteers At Cargin

Almost 2,000 people were in a quiet graveyard at Cargin near Toomebridge where a memorial service was held last Sunday, for Charles McCann and Pheilm Grant who were killed on active service last February. McCann served as a full time Company O.C. and Grant as a volunteer.

These men, well known throughout the locality of Toomebridge as ardent supporters of the struggle for freedom, were life long companions. Both came from respected families who themselves were identifiable with the futherance of our Irish cultures.

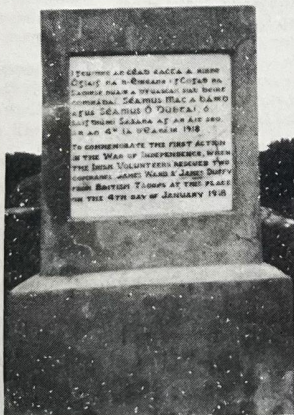
McCann, though resident in the Ardoyne district of Belfast spent most of his time around the Toomebridge area. He gained popularity with both young and old and hence the deep sence of loss experienced by the people at the news of his tragic death.

Pheilm Grant was a familiar figure in the Erins Own G.A.C. Cargin, and in most social gatherings around the countryside. He proudly carried the flag, hoisted by his ancestors some years ago and bearing the inscription "For Ireland we fight and die".

The newly formed "Charles McCann and Pheilm Grant Sinn Fein Cumann" will endeavour to bring ideals of these dead heroes into everyheart and every home. At the inagural meeting members pledged themselves to further the cause for which these men sacrificed their young lives.

"Greater love than this no man hath".

Taken on a lonely stretch of coast road in County Donegal. Was the incident commemorated really the first action in war of Independence?



At 7.30 a.m. of the same Saturday that Janet died, Albert Kavanagh, an 18 year old compositor's apprentice, who lived with his parents and three other unmarried children in a family of nine. Brenda Paul and John, in the working class Falls Road district of Belfast, was lighting a fuse of a gelignite bomb at the Olympia Business Machines plant in Adelaide Industrial Estates in the suburbs of Belfast with another boy named Sean Fox, when the police and the Army surrounded the place. Albert and Sean were cut off, so they ran and tried to climb a seven foot high fence. Sean got up and over the fence, but Albert, realising he couldn't make it put his arms above his head and shouted "Don't shoot; I'm unarmed". But it was too late. Already the bullets from the Sterling submachine guns were riddling his back. His friend dropped with a series of bullets in the chest as he came back to try to help Albert, who lay dead on the other side of the fence. While all this was going on, the bomb of small poundage exploded in the reception area of the Olympia Business Machines".

Les Levine, who wrote that paragraph, is an artist who works in "systems". He likes to explore how things work in his art, how they are interdependent, intermeshed; how they fit together, function, and set each other going. What is happening in between Catholics and Protestant

happening in the Six Counties between Catholics and Protestants is, he believes, a system and the result of a system and, therefore, material for exploration by an artist.

"As I have worked with several art systems, I think it is my duty to impose these sensibilities on interpreting existing social systems which are changing and affecting our lives at a more rapid pace than we can finesse our culture to cope with them", he says.

So with the help of a grant from the Architectural League of New York, Levine, who was born in Ireland, returned home with a camera, lots of film, tape recorders and tapes to try in some way to understand just what was going on there. The result is the present exhibition at the Finch College Museum of Art: "The Troubles: An Artists Document of Ulster".

The exhibit, which runs through January 21st, is displayed in four rooms each showing, in different ways, aspects of the troubles. There is the "Documentation Center", using taped interviews, with men and women on both sides telling of the troubles from their point of view. On the walls of that room are front pages of Irish newspapers telling, with banner headlines, various versions of the fighting, the bombing, the death and the fear that were every day events in March and April, 1972, and still are. On the table are articles from American newspapers, many of them written by Les Levine, as

FUNCTION OF HATRED IN ULSTER'S TROUBLES by Amei Wallach

well as scientific data on the weapons being used in Northern Ireland.

Another room shows "Their Culture". There is "folk lore" on handkerchiefs made by prisoners in internment camps. There are pictures of a wooden gun and a wooden Celt harp made by a prisoner in Long Kesh internment camp. There is poetry by Catholics and Protestants, hand drawn I.R.A. weapons training charts, and a 50 minute documentary film. And there is a slide show that clicks silently away with scenes of churches, of plaster saints, of silent slum streets, of high rises, while in the background a sonorous politician drones on to marching feet, or the Irish sing fighting songs.

On the black door of the "High Noise Interrogation Chamber" is a sign: "High Noise Torture. Go beyond this point at own risk. Prolonged exposure beyond this point may induce vomiting. No children please." Enter the room and the door clicks shut behind you. It is a small room, dark and bare with only the table to hold the tape recorder that drones on and on with its unbearable sound, a high-pitched humming sound, according to Levine, which is used to torture prisoners.

Then there is the room that defines "The People". The photographs in this room are behind barbed wire barricades that surround the four walls to give some sense of an Ulster environment. In black and white blow-ups on the walls are pictures of internees' wives, interiors of homes made shambles by British search parties, bombing and bombing victims, paratroopers, funerals and Bernadette Devlin.

Here Miss Devlin trades sharp "humor" with an M.P. Here she glares upward fiercely and caption reads, "If those helicopters think I can't stop talking long enough for them to fly overhead with that deafening noise, they are bigger fools than even we believe them to be".

There is even a photograph of an 18 year old bomber, just before his death, and his is smiling. "I don't want to end up like my father, unhappy and drunk, when I go, I want 1,000 people at my funeral!" says the caption.

But there is a difference in these

photos of Catholics and Protestants of the women who stay home while their men fight. Levine says he sees with an artist's unbiased eye, but there is a difference. In the Catholic faces is nobility, suffering and resignation or determination. In the Protestant faces is anger, suffering, ugliness and retribution. Still Levine understands the Protestant suffering, too. The caption under one photograph of Barbara Stewart, Protestant whose brother James lost both legs in the Abercorn restaurant blast, is: "In the hospital, Jimmy said, 'May God forgive those who have done this'. What I say is may God damn those who have done this". The museum, at 52 E, 78 th St., is open 1 - 5 p.m. daily except on Mondays.

progress

The progress of the Sinn Fein (Kevin St.) organisation in Ulster was highlighted during a recent meeting of officers from Monaghan, Cavan, Armagh, Fermanagh, Tyrone and South Derry.

This was the first of a planned series of such meetings whose purpose will be the co-ordination of activities within the area, the interchange of ideas and the streamlining of the organisational machinery.

Following the meeting, it was announced that a mass rally to be held in Dungiven on Sunday 11th February will mark the public launching of Sinn Fein in the Derry County Area.

Within the past few months, membership of Sinn Fein has multiplied in the South Derry Area and with an ever increasing number of new Cumann it was decided to establish a Derry County Comhairle Ceantair.

This newly formed body which is sponsoring the Dungiven demonstration, extends an invitation to all who oppose British interference in the affairs of Ireland, to all who oppose injustices and repression North and South and to all who support the ideals of the Republican movement, to join with them on Sunday February 11th at Dungiven.

My Lord,

When reading the "Belfast Telegraph" recently, I noticed a headline which read, "Work Don't Fight R.C. Bishop". After I read the item I lifted my pen and tried hard not to be angry as I reply to your press handout.

The first item is where you condemn the patriotism of many young men of twenty sent out to kill and die in every decade since "independence". This sounds fine and as every man is entitled to express his opinions (except Republicans and Northern Catholics who happen to be against the Establishment) I find no fault with your words but, why only since "independence"? Is it because if you talk about violence pre 1922, you would have to condemn the "great freedom-fighter" Eamonn De Valera, and the two brothers of our illustrious Monsignor in Belfast?

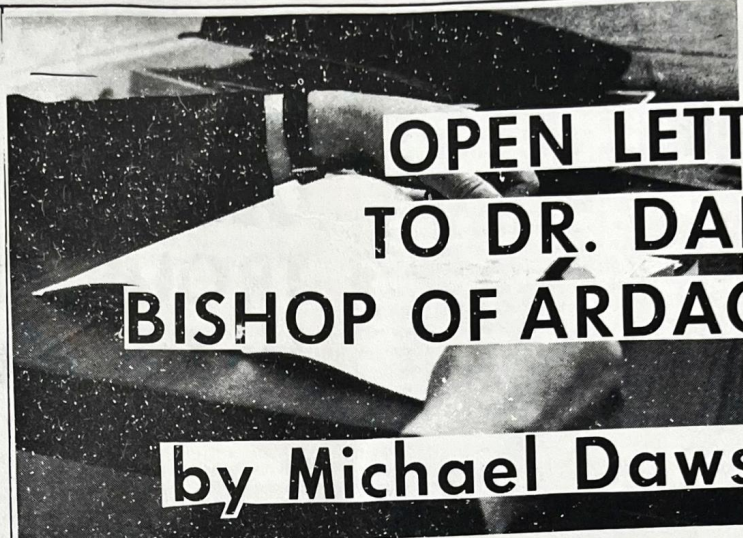
You might have to condemn Pearse and Connolly, not to mention Tom Barry and Terence McSweeney. Please explain why you have only discovered recently that violence for political ends is wrong and please also explain why if violence is wrong why do you not call for the Free State Army to be disbanded. Why do you not call for the disarming of the Special Branch men who guard government ministers in the 26 Counties, or for the disarming of the soldiers of the Republican prisoners in the same 26 Counties?

I don't expect you to be responsible for other people's words or actions, but I am at a loss to understand why the English Cardinal and bishops do not condemn the soldiers of the British Army who kill and murder Catholic people in Six Counties.

I fail to understand why you differ so much from Cardinal Conway, who, when the infamous "Peace Petition" was circulated through Catholic churches in the North in the Spring of 1972, only condemned the force being used at that time. There were three parts to the petition. The first part stated, "We reject the use of force at the present time". Maybe the silent Cardinal knows that Catholics very soon may have to fight to live in the North.

The next item in the Belfast Telegraph report of your speech is, "half of Ireland has been identified with fighting for Ireland rather than working for her. "Now there are two sides to this. They are, how it affects me if I live in the 26 or the Six Counties.

I will deal with the 26 Counties first and look at my prospects. I could go to the university and study law. When I have qualified I could join a political party and



OPEN LETTER TO DR. DALY, BISHOP OF ARDAGH

by Michael Dawson

perhaps I could become Taoiseach. What a wonderful time I could have! I could say to the Northern Catholics, "I am your Second Guarantor". I could encourage them to fight for their rights and when they would, and the Orange mobs and the British Army chase them over the Border, I could have my concentration camps ready for them.

But I will not hang them as Eamonn did. I don't think people down here would stand for that. However if the Catholic Hierarchy maintained their usual silence about injustices and condemned Catholics who would dare to say I am wrong, I might just make it. This time if hanging were necessary, I would find an Irish hangman.

Maybe I could become Minister of Commerce and when any semi-state industry looks like becoming a success I could withhold their government grants.

But I really think I would settle for Minister of Justice. That is where the real power lies. If some of the old fashioned people who believe in justice tried to upset my plans, I could sack them and depend on the Catholic Hierarchy to keep the masses quiet.

I would have no trouble in appointing my own Chief Superintendants and so dispose of any of my neighbours whom I do not like. Come to think of it, I could easily remove "himself" by getting one of my C.S.'s to go into court and say he has reason to believe that he is a member of an illegal organisation like the G.A.A. As I could also appoint judges for the Special Courts, I should have no trouble arranging this.

If the Catholic Church should ever appoint a bishop who sides with the people, I could have him declared insane. I believe this is feasible as there was no real big outcry about what my friends in Hollywood torture

chamber inflicted on the Northern Catholics. The Irish Medical Association lost no sleep over the tortures. Yes, I think I could get away with it.

I would certainly be the most powerful man in the land and people would live in fear of me. In the interests of law and order I could ban all reading material as I am convinced that reading books except filthy books is the main cause of all our troubles.

I had better leave some papers like "The Standard". This would keep the bishops happy. It isn't a bad paper anyway because it never prints anything that might make people think.

Pity I couldn't think of a way to make people stop thinking then maybe they would forget about the Northern Catholics.

Perhaps I could get into the Senate and when the Northern Catholics are really getting it bad (like during Internment Week), I could get my honourable friends to have a debate on Contraceptives like Senator May Robinson did. Nothing like a discussion on sex to keep the peasant's minds of what is happening up there in Belfast.

But my dear Lord, as I live in the Six Counties, I must face the grim realities of my personal situation. I must bear in mind before I start working for my country, that I am a Catholic living in Belfast. This of course, limits my prospects to a considerable extent.

As I seem to have a lot of political thoughts, maybe I will join a political party. Now if I wanted to become Prime Minister here, I would have to join the Unionist Party. But there is a slight problem, they don't accept Catholic nor do they appear willing to give allegiance to Ireland. There is the party where I could really work for my country if I wasn't a Cath-

olic that is.

But as I believe in Justice and Equality for everyone I must be a dreamer. So what harm if I dream a little longer?

Now to become Prime Minister in the Six Counties, I must first join the Orange Order. If I am ever interviewed by a Dublin paper, I can say I joined it because my grandfather was a member and I wanted to maintain the family tradition. Shades of Roy Bradford. If I became P.M. and later retired, they might appoint me a Director of the National Gallery in Dublin as happened to Lord O'Neill.

Now to reach my goal, I must say and do the right things. What are the right things? Well, almost anything that is anti-Catholic or anti-National. When I go to the Dublin Horse Show, I will be among my own anyway. Like Captain John Brooke.

I could say the following: "It is also from the ranks of the Loyal Orange Institution that our spendid Specials

is also from the ranks of the Loyal Orange Institution that our splendid Specials have come". (Belfast Newsletter, 13th July, 1922).

"I have always said that I am an Orangeman first and a politician and member of this parliament afterwards. All I boost is that we are a Protestant Parliament AND Protestant State". (St. James Craig in Stormont debate 24th April, 1934).

Funny how saying a Protestant Parliament for a Protestant People never goes out of date. Nat Minford used the same words in a speech in Randalls-town when Paisley ran against that great liberal Terence O'Neill in the election in early 1969. "The Church of Rome", he warned, "ran a world-wide organisation - the most efficient political machine in the world.

It controlled ne and television st hundred and on of propaganda. to give vigorous cause it espouse ours Irish Repu as wholehearted in the past is un nised".

Changed times of Rome! In Ju Provisional Sinn asked for a mee al Conway. He he went to Stor week to meet M

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It controlled newspapers, radio and television stations and a hundred and one other avenues of propaganda. I was also able to give vigorous publicity to any cause it espoused - that it favoured Irish Republicanism to-day as wholeheartedly as it has done in the past is universally recognised".

Changed times for the Church of Rome! In June, 1971, the Provisional Sinn Fein movement asked for a meeting with Cardinal Conway. He refused although he went to Stormont the same week to meet Mr. Faulkner.

"There is no reason why Orange men individually and collectively should not interest themselves in the economic welfare of the community. I mean by that statement, we should be anxious to find employment for our brethren". (Brian Faulkner - County Down Spectator, 17th July, 1954).

I could do and say things the same as our greatest P.M., Terence O'Neill. He was the greatest because he was able to fool the Catholic Hierarchy and the Dublin newspapers. For instance, "Protestant girl required for housework. Apply to the Hon. Mrs. Terence O'Neill, Glebe House, Ahogill, Co. Antrim". (Advertisement in the Belfast Telegraph, November, 1959).

"It is frightfully hard to explain to Protestants that if you give Roman Catholics a good job and a good house, they will live like Protestants, because they will see neighbours with cars and television sets."

"They will refuse to have 18 children. But if a Catholic is jobless and lives in the most ghastly hovel he will rear 18 children on National Assistance".

"If you treat Roman Catholics with due consideration and kindness, they will live like Protestants in spite of the authoritative nature of their Church". (Belfast Telegraph, 10 Feb 69).

Now these sayings should not really offend anyone as when they were said the good old Catholic Hierarchy kept quiet and I am sure they could be relied upon to do the same again.

Well anyway, I will have to forget the Unionist Party, because in spite of the bishops of Ireland, I am still a Catholic.

Maybe I could join the N.I. Labour Party but they never get anywhere because they say they believe in equality. Mind you, they only say it, but it wouldn't help me to work for my country.

No, my party will be the Alliance. Such nice people, they even condemn internment. But no special Courts or the corrupt judiciary. That would be going too far. If they condemned Special Courts,

people might think they believed in justice for all. But they do know that all our troubles stem from the Catholic school system. Perhaps they are right when you look at the bishops the Catholic schools have produced.

I mean just because over 100 Catholics have been assassinated the Bishop of Armagh, Cardinal Conway, came on television and asked Mr. Whitelaw to act. But in fairness he has never publicly condemned internment of Catholics, and he always refused under any circumstances to meet and talk with the lower classes - especially Republicans. To be fair, he does boost the British Establishment by meeting Whitelaw and Heath at any time.

What must I do to be a success in the Alliance Party? Firstly, I must take my children from Catholic schools and put them in State schools, if I am asked why if all schools are the same, I go to a different church, I will dodge the question in some way.

One good thing about being in the Alliance Party is I will be allowed to speak my mind because I don't want to change anything anyway.

I will be invited to speak to different groups in all parts of the country. I hope the people in the South who hold good positions, will maintain the tradition of not giving free speech to those Republicans who create nothing but trouble by asking for political change.

Only one thing about the Alliance Party - they don't seem to have any political policies. For instance, they never mention discrimination against Catholics as practised by most if not all large employers in the Six Counties. But when you think of it, the Catholic Hierarchy seldom mentions it either. Nevertheless I could be embarrassed if someone asked me why.

No, I don't think I could work for my country in the Alliance Party.

Before I leave the political field, I must examine the S.D.L.P. One thing I can't figure out is why they are ashamed of being Catholic. Perhaps they aren't really and just pretend. I do wish they would make up their minds about certain things - internment for instance. Gerry Fitt told his friend Brian Faulkner on T.V. one evening that he would not release the men of violence from Long Kesh either.

Just one thing, who decides who is innocent and who is guilty? Is it Mr. Whitelaw who has set up the Special Courts where Special Branch men hide behind blankets and give evidence?

On the same programme, Gerry told Brian that he had done a marvellous job when he was

Minister of Commerce. Was this tribute deserved because Brian kept work well away from Catholic areas?

While working for my country in the S.D.L.P., what will say if people ask me about broken promises like talking to Whitelaw after we promised not to talk until internment ended? Maybe they followed the example set by the Cardinal. One thing in his favour, he only said that he would not talk to Republicans. He at least kept his word on that score.

No, I have decided I will not join any of the establishment parties. This leaves only Sinn Fein, but I could go to prison if I join. I wonder why? Do you ever wonder why, my Lord?

Now I must still remember when deciding how I will work for my country that I am a Catholic. Being a Northern Catholic yourself my Lord, need I remind you of discrimination? I don't think I need to but as you spent some of your years in Belfast in the quietness of Queens University, perhaps I should refresh your memory.

Harland and Wolff, 10,000 employees, 200 Catholics. History will surely salute these men who still run the gauntlet every day wondering if they will get home safely. Where do these men get their strong faith from? Not from the Catholic Hierarchy, I'm sure because to my knowledge they have never raised much of a protest about the blatant discrimination that exists in Belfast shipyard.

Shorts Brothers and Harlands - Belfast's aircraft factory? I am not sure of the figures but I have heard 1 per cent Catholic. Not much chance of work there for my country. Anyway, they make war planes and air to ground missiles. Violence raises its head again. Maybe they would give me a job as a Cloakroom Attendant.

Mackie's Engineering Works? Only 300 - 400 Catholics out of a work force of about 6,500 and this factory is situated in a Catholic district, a convenient place for them to work.

Gallaghers Ltd., the tobacco people? Situated close to a Catholic district. I heard that they were told last year to bring their female labour force up to 12 per cent. Need I remind you my Lord, that Catholics are 40 per cent of the population in the Six Counties? No, I am afraid that I must look elsewhere for work as they don't employ Catholic males.

Sirocco Works? 1,000 workers, only 5 of them Catholic. What would you do? I will look around Andersonstown, Ballymurphy, Turf Lodge, why are there no factories to be seen? Is it because they are Catholic

districts? Surely this could not be the reason. If it is, would the Catholic Hierarchy not have spoken out in very strong language?

Rolls Royce factory, Dundonald? 800 jobs, only 60 Catholics. A higher average than usual in the Six Counties, but if you were able to examine the latest figures my Lord, I think you would find that they have changed since the assassination attempt on six Catholics in which one died.

Would you not agree now my Lord, that Northern Catholics have a problem when they want to work for their country?

The next item in the newspaper report on your speech was, "There is no future for Ulster, or for Ireland, until everyone in this island accepts that you cannot coerce a million Protestants into a united Ireland and that you cannot coerce a quarter of a million Catholics into a united, in the sense of Unionist, Ulster".

If I am to accept your word that one million Protestants cannot be coerced into a united Ireland, I must examine what the Six Counties have to offer me as a Catholic. I read in a Belfast Sunday newspaper a full page interview given by the Rev. Martin Smyth, head of the Orange Order in Ireland. He offers me a return of Stormont with increased powers and the raising of another defense force on the line of the old "B" Specials. I ask you to note, he does not want a return of the old Stormont. He wants more powers than ever.

Now as you live in the safe haven of the South, (where did we hear these words before?) you won't be effected by this. I will, and I certainly will not accept such conditions.

The next item: - "Referring to the North, he said that people were rendered incapable of thinking objectively, or even seeing a need to be informed accurately, about the realities of the problem".

When I find the address of your palace which I am sure is somewhere in the sky, I will send you a copy of EIRE NUA.

My Lord, you might protest that I have taken your speech out of context but this is how it was reported in the Belfast Telegraph. Get a copy if you don't believe me.

Why did the three Belfast papers report your speech and not the speech by Rev. David Lapsley, M.A. who I believe is a Methodist? Is it because he examined the causes of violence and therefore he did not create more anti-Republican propaganda?

As this is a letter, I must finish

before it becomes a book. Before I finish, I must tell you that I believe that the Faith will be maintained in the North by the priests who are not afraid to speak out on behalf of the down-trodden Catholics who are worse off now than they have ever been and not by bishops who only speak when they can help the Establishment to press harder on anyone who dares to disagree.

I cannot sign myself, "your brother in Christ", because I do not feel that we are related in any way.

In fact, I must consider my wife and five children when I sign this letter at all, but, as I, like all Catholics in the Six Counties, are under threat of imprisonment or death because of my religious and political beliefs.

"Careless talk costs lives," is a slogan from wartime England. It should be memorised by every man, woman and child in the Six County Republican areas.

No one would willingly give information to the British but everyone should realise that scraps of gossip form the basis of almost all British intelligence work.

Careless talk, boasting or a slip of the tongue all these can be used by touts to build-up a wider picture for their masters.

A good example of this is an incident that happened in the Lower Falls on the Anniversary of Bloody Sunday. Soon after an ASU engaged British troops in Balkan Street. Two young girls stood gossiping in the street. In their conversation they mentioned the nicknames of two Volunteers who had fired at the Brits. The girls did not know they were overheard by soldiers hiding in a nearby derelict house. These soldiers radioed the nicknames to their base location, where, no doubt, they will be filed for later reference.

These two girls probably had no intention of acting as touts - but their criminal stupidity could endanger the lives of their fathers and brothers. REMEMBER: CARELESS TALK COSTS LIVES.

On Friday, 2nd February, Mr. Justice McGonagle threatened a young Belfast man with a sentence of borstal training. The young man only 16 years old, answered the Judge in the best Republican tradition. He said, "If you sentence me to borstal I will go on hunger strike, until the death, if necessary I hope you will accept the consequences if you do send me to Borstal. I want to be treated as a political prisoner and be with the rest of my comrades in Long Kesh."

The Judge then said he would reconsider the sentences. If this young boy does end up in Borstal he will join 3 comrades who have been on hunger strike for almost 3 weeks in an attempt to gain political status.

These sentences of borstal training on young Republicans are absurd. The principle of this type of sentence is to try and reform hardened criminals and not to brain wash anyone who holds a legitimate political view. These youths, who probably would never have come before a court but for their political opinions, will now spend the

BORSTAL WARDERS— WATCH YOUR STEP!

next year or so in company with hardened criminals.

Over the last few weeks, we have talked to a number of ex-Borstal boys and we have learned something about the system. Here are the findings.

A trainee spends the first 3 months of his sentence in the closed Borstal at Armagh. This is probably the toughest 'prison' for young offenders in Ireland where discipline is meted out, with batons, boots and long periods in solitary.

The in-mates work at the most menial and soul destroying tasks. There are no facilities to enable a young man to learn a trade.

The next stage in the process is a transfer to Millisle. If he is lucky a prisoner can learn the basics of bricklaying, painting etc.

However, when released he finds this training is useless as he can't join a trade union and even if he could he would find the meager training wasn't long enough to learn any trade.

The final stage in training is the granting of special privilege status. This allows the prisoner 1 day per month parole. Protestants are granted special parole after 13 months, most Catholics have to wait at least 16 months to gain this status.

Then the young men are sent to work in a local egg packing plant, Kennedy's of Millisle, where they earn the princely sum of 4 pounds 50 pence per week. Of this they are allowed 1 pound pocket money. The other 3 pounds 50 pence goes towards their keep.

This use of Borstal in-mates as virtual slave labour must be building a nice 'nest egg' for someone.

One Borstal boy told us that on his first day in Millisle he was asked his religion by a young warder. When he replied Roman Catholic, the warder told him, "My two pet hates are fenians and niggers, so watch yourself". As the months passed he found this to be true.

Some of the warders in Millisle are fanatical anti Catholic, ex B specials and U.D.A. men. These screws try to make life unbearable for young Catholic prisoners in their care.

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MASSACRE!

NEW LODGE RD,
3rd FEB. 1971



TORCH

A coloured soldier who raped two American girl hitch-hikers at gunpoint after driving them to a disused Army camp in Wiltshire was jailed for five years. Gunner Tarick Seif, 22, who appeared for sentence at Portsmouth Crown Court, was said to have served with distinction in the Six Counties.

Remains of a Belfast Corporation buses still smoldering in Dunlewey Street, Belfast.



COALISLAND — One of the many fine toys made by members of the John Haughey Sinn Fein Cumann.



your man says...

George Watt

I am sure you read about it in the press and if you move in certain circles as I do you also must have heard the rumours. It was to the fact that a new Carson would be soon making his appearance on the scene and would once again free the chosen people from fear and bondage. He would make his first appearance on the mass rally in the Ulster Hall on February 12th alongside Bill Cowboy Craig.

When the rumours became facts and the name of the apostle became known, quite a few raised a protest and found they had other places to be at instead of the Ulster Hall on that date. The name of the new Carson was George Watt, the Belfast man who spent three years in a Chinese prison for alleged spying for the Brits.

Since his release our George has been making plenty of capital out of his experiences and is now a good member of the right-wing Conservative Monday Club.

But he has also been in the news for a very different reason, that is his financial interests in certain businesses which have a smell about them, namely he has been linked with being part owner of strip clubs in the London area and closely connected with the pornographic trade. So you see not the type to promote as the new Carson.

Me thinks after the mass rally on the 12th February, George will quietly be told to stay in London. And the hunt for a new Carson will continue.

John McKeague

I am sure many of our comrades in the Republican Movement had a certain amount of sympathy for John McKeague when he stood in the dock the other week and refused to recognise the court because he had been detained under the Special Powers Act. But before we allow our emotion to run away in too much sympathy let us have a

INVITATION TO THE UDA

(Continued from Page One)
by the British to divide our people. A position in which we are forecast to identify you as the tools of oppression alongside those of the B.A. We urge you to educate yourselves and your people to a new political awareness so that you can play a vital part in the New Social and Democratic Republic, envisaged by us in the New Ireland, political policy of Sinn Fein.

look at the record of this anti-Catholic and anti-Republican psychopath.

I remember in 1968-69 when McKeague then a member of Paisley's bodyguard, took part in the explosions that helped to bring down O'Neill. He was arrested with four others and put on trial for taking part in the explosions. He was acquitted of the charges.

He was re-arrested and charged with complicity in the explosions. During the trial the mind of the jury was made up for them by a bomb placed inside the courthouse on the Crumlin Road. He was found not guilty.

Paisley scared by this time of being compromised with such characters like McKeague disowned him and McKeague went his own way.

In the 1970 election our John stood as a Protestant candidate and received the amazing number of 240 votes. Since that time he has concentrated on building up an ultra-right loyalist organisation called "The Red Hand Command" which has been the spearhead in carrying out the recent assassinations.

He also built up a printing business which not only prints his own 'Loyalist News' but does the printing work for all other loyalist organisations in the shape of their news sheets. As the leader of the Red hand he has a seat on the United Loyalist Council.

Last year he was charged under the Incitement to Fated Act for printing an obscene anti-Catholic song book but was found not guilty.

On the 8th May 1971 McKeague's Mother was killed in a petrol bomb attack on his flat above his shop on the Albertbridge Road. He claimed later in the 'Loyalist News' that he knew who had carried out the attack and that it was not the I.R.A.

He knew alright and the Shankill Road people weren't surprised when the Red Hand carried out an execution on one of those involved — James Nelson a well known supporter of Ian Paisley was found dead in his car in Downing Street in September of the same year.

A week later the headquarters of McKeague in Sandy Row — the Blue Bell bar went up in the air. A fortnight later McKeague tried to get revenge on Paisley's supporters, and the night Paisley and Boal called a meeting of their supporters to tell them they had formed a new party, the Democratic Unionist Party. After the meeting they all went round to Bobby Moffatt's bar The Four-Step Inn and were just in time to see the bar explode. Joker Andrews and young Bates through an accident

in handling the bomb had blown themselves up. The Paisleyites were still outside on the roadway, and we had the spectacle of the honourable Ian and Dessie Boal holding an impromptu meeting of sympathy with the dead and injured and blamed it on the Republican Army.

The only time the authorities have been able to convict McKeague was on the breaking the ban on marches, when he and others paraded along the Ravenhill Road, on the Sunday, Paisley was opening the Martyrs Memorial Church. He was given a six months sentence which he spent in comfort in hospital.

At present McKeague has been charged with robbery involving 1,500 pounds in cash, cheques, and a .32 automatic pistol, in Coleraine last year. Yet a few weeks ago he had been arrested and then the charge dropped of having received these same articles.

The day before these latest charges were put against him it is interesting to note that his mates charged with him had been sentenced for robbery and blackmail in the Coleraine area around the same dates as in this new charge — his mates are Henry Victor Mathews and Samul Black Carroll and they are now doing a two year sentence after pleading guilty. I am wondering if they did a deal with the police to catch our John?

Anyway there is one thing we will all have to agree on and that is McKeague has had a long innings in carrying out his hatred campaign against the Catholic people.

That Strike

It was on the 9th December 1970 that Roy Bradford then Minister of Commerce went on television and declared to a surprised and shocked population of the six counties that as a result of the go-slow action of the local power workers in fighting for a wage increase he had no alternative but to prohibit the use of electricity by the manufacturing industries, which meant that 200,000 workers were without work.

It was this action of Bradford's which was criticised by not only trade unions but also by the employers who both decided it had been unnecessary but that it was Bradford's method of trying to break the strike.

What he did do was to show certain politicians the power of the electricity workers who if they wanted to use that power could bring a country to a complete shut-down. Last January 1972 — the Republican News pointed out the activities of Bill Craig in getting complete

control of various organisations for the day when he would come out openly with his Vanguard Movement and at that period, we pointed out, that he had organised 43 of the Unionist Party constituent associations. During this period he had also got control of the power workers as he had learned of their power from Bradford's action. Thus when he decided to call a two-day strike because of the closing down of Stormont and the introduction of direct rule he knew he could play on the fears of the frightened unionist workers, by intimidation and most of all to ensure that all factories would be shut down, his power workers would press the switches and stop the supply of electricity. The two day strike was such a success that even the wee man Brian tried to get into the act by speaking to the crowd at Stormont and shaking hands with his friend Bill Craig.

When the U.D.A. decided to have one day strike on Wednesday 7th February to protest against the detention of two unionists, by the time Craig had heard about it he agreed with the strike but not for the two detainees — no it would have to be to show once more the strength of his following and to impress the establishment especially Whitelaw that will happen if the White Paper does not have proposals that he can agree with.

So the power workers pulled the switches even before the deadline, to show their dedication to the chief cowboy, and the pickets stood in front of all the factory gates and the intimidators went to work on all so called dissidents to make sure they would remember the trial run of Wednesday 7th February.

Those workers who wanted to go to their work, got very little encouragement to do so. Firstly all they received from the trade unions was a call for them to go to work, the only voice was Billy Blease who had no heart in it as he realised that no worker wanted to be a dead hero in trying to pass the pickets. Secondly the Engineering Employers Federation although backing up Blease at the same time instructed their members to allow all staff members in the offices to take Wednesday off as a holiday against their 1973 holiday allowance.

So everybody took a hand in helping cowboy Craig to show how he could bring industry to a complete shut-down.

If the trade union movement wants to keep its credibility in the eyes of the workers it must win the loyalty of the power workers away from Craig and control their actions so that they cannot be used by a Fascist movement like the Loyalist Council.

Captain Leo O'Hanlon,
East Down Command
Oglaiqh na h-Eireann

Sympathy


The Editor and Staff of Republican News deeply regret the deaths of Captain Leo O'Hanlon and Volunteer Vivienne Fitzsimons.

We tender our sincere sympathy to their families and to their comrades.



Vol. Vivienne Fitzsimons,
East Down Command
Cumann na mBan



 Pictured here are a section of the massive Sinn Féin Rally in Dungannon last Sunday.



(On Monday morning, 5th February, 1973, six young men from the Dungannon area were arrested in a dawn swoop by British Security Forces. Two remain in detention — SEAN KERR and M. McNULTY.

THEY CAME AT DAWN

By "BERNADETTE"

They came at six
When the darkness had not left
But hung, a cloak
For the shame of their evil deeds.
Shattering the night
With heavy, banging fists
And bits of paper
As lethal as their guns.
With no regrets, they seized and took away
Our men and now we cry: "What right had they?"
Mindless thugs
What cared they for the sight
Of children's tears, bewildered, in the night?
They trampled on
A mother who fell crying to the ground.
So self-assured, so many with so much,
Against the angry fists of angry sons.
They came at six — they took our men away
Now who shall fight for us?
What right had they?